



Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-88-022
Wednesday
3 February 1988

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-88-022

CONTENTS

3 February 1988

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Talks To Start With U.S. on GATT Decision	1
News Conference, Statement	1
Opposition Parties React	2
U.S. To Discuss Stock Market Issue	3
Diet Stalls Over U.S. Port Call Controversy	3
Investigators Travel To ROK Meet KAL Bomber	3
Pro-DPRK Association Protests Sanctions	4
USSR Salmon Talks Set for 29 February	4
Narrowing Trade Surplus With PRC Predicted	4
National Unemployment Rate Down in December	4
Record Low Consumer Price Rise Reported	5
Ministry Warns of Revenue Shortfall	5

North Korea

Commentator Denies Terrorist Agent Report	6
NODONG SINMUN Lists U.S. Terrorism Crimes	6
South Submits to U.S. Economic Aggression	7
Commentaries Demand Removal of Nuclear Arms	7
Station Commentator's Article	7
NODONG SINMUN Article	8
Papers Comment on Japanese Sanctions	8
Chongnyon Issues Statement	9
KCNA Reports Joint U.S.-Japan Exercises	9
View of U.S. Urging Japan To Expand Defense	10
KCNA Reports Nakasone To Visit South	10
Suppression Said Planned for No Inauguration	10
Daily on Kim Il-song Thesis on Light Industry	11
NODONG SINMUN Praises Guidance of WPK	11
Revolutionary Organization Activities Viewed	12

South Korea

Explosion of Chinese Train in DPRK Reported	13
Foreign Women Said Kidnapped, Sent to DPRK	13
Medicine Export Deal Formed With Yugoslavia [THE KOREA TIMES 3 Feb]	13
Large Construction Firms Eye Communist Bloc [THE KOREA TIMES 3 Feb]	14
Trade Delegation Leaves for Talks With EC [THE KOREA TIMES 3 Feb]	14
To Discuss Steel Quotas [THE KOREA HERALD 3 Feb]	15
Chon Urges Tightened Security for Olympics [THE KOREA TIMES 3 Feb]	15
Major Parties Begin Debate on Local Autonomy [THE KOREA TIMES 3 Feb]	15
PPD To Adopt Collective Leadership Formula [THE KOREA HERALD 3 Feb]	16
Changes Seen for Party Survival [THE KOREA HERALD 3 Feb]	16
DJP Ready for Action on Election Revision [THE KOREA HERALD 3 Feb]	18
Group Considered To Ensure Police Neutrality [THE KOREA TIMES 3 Feb]	19

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Diplomats, Journalists Tour Kachin State	21
View of Insurgent Leaders' Traits, Actions [THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY 25 Jan]	22
Traders, Cooperatives Permitted To Export Rice	22

Bornei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister Assesses ASEAN Summit	23
Defense Minister on Increasing Self-Reliance	23
10-Day Joint Exercise With Australia Starts	24

Cambodia

14th National Assembly Session Opens	24
Meeting Marks Indochinese Party Anniversary	25
Indochina Mekong Committees Meet in Phnom Penh	25
Chea Sim Receives Australian Delegation	26
KPNLF Denies Confrontation With ANS [AFP]	26
Son Sann Denies Criticizing Sihanouk [AFP]	26
SRV Expert Dies in Phnom Penh Explosion [VOK]	27
VODK Sees Attempt To 'Vietnamize' Country	27
Report on Summary of January Battle Results [VONADK]	28
Briefs	28
Battambang Returnees in 1987	28
Additional Returnees	28

Laos

Radio Report on Thai Bombing of Boten	29
KPL Reports Thai Threat To Close Border	29
Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Briefing	29
Rallies Denounce Thailand's 'Hostile Acts'	30
Report on Thai Aide-Memoire on Talks	30
Daily Says Nam Heuang 'Genuine' Borderline	30
Paper Hails Boten People's Heroism, Courage	31
Commentary on Thai Use of 'Provocative Tone'	31
Greetings on CPV Founding Anniversary	32
Briefs	32
PRK-USSR Cooperation	32

Philippines

Manglapus Favors Removal of U.S. Bases [KYODO]	33
GLOBE Interviews Manglapus [3 Feb]	33
Senator Discusses Japan's U.S. Bases Role [AFP]	35
Ramos Says Security Situation 'Not Very Good' [AFP]	35
De Villa on Military's Anticommunist Tactics [PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE]	36
New National Maneuver Force Activated	37
Official Urges Creation of Vigilante Groups	37
NDF Admits, Explains 'Revolutionary Taxes' [MANILA STANDARD 29 Jan]	37
Government Moves To Block MNLF Membership	37
Ramos Sees No Signs of Immediate MNLF Attack [AFP]	38
MNLF Rebels Storm Towns in Lanao del Sur	38
Abadilla Takes Oath of Office While Detained	38
Manglapus 'Open' to Vietnam Joining ASEAN [AFP]	39
Formation of ASEAN Parliament Discussed	39

Contenders for Ruling Coalition Head Named	39
Aquino Answers Listeners' Questions	39

Thailand

Air Force Launches Strikes Against Lao Troops [BANGKOK POST 3 Feb]	40
Lao Shells Reportedly Hit Uttaradit [THAI RAT 3 Feb]	41
Casualty Claims Denied	41
Ministry Refutes Illegal Logging Charge	42
Foreign Ministry Delineates Thai-Lao Border	42
Defense Chief Assesses Impact of U.S. Aid Cut [BANGKOK POST 3 Feb]	43
Sitthi Wants USSR Role in Cambodian Solution [THE NATION 3 Feb]	43
Sihanouk To Visit; Rannarit Not in CGDK [BANGKOK POST 3 Feb]	43
Editorial Assesses Sihanouk Resignation [SIAM RAT 2 Feb]	44
Government Rejects U.S. Refugee Camp Request [BANGKOK POST 3 Feb]	44
300 Boat People Sent Back [BANGKOK POST 3 Feb]	45
30 Vietnamese Arrested [THE NATION 3 Feb]	45
Chinese NPC Delegation Arrives in Bangkok [ZHONG HUA RIBAO 30 Jan]	45

Vietnam

Article on NATO Aid To Modernize ASEAN Armies	46
Daily Praises Hun Sen-Sihanouk Meeting [NHAN DAN 24 Jan]	46
Radio Carries Commentary	47
VNA Cites Lao Spokesman on Border Dispute	47
Japan, ROK, Others Seek Economic Ties [YONHAP]	48
Vo Chi Cong Visits An Giang Province [NHAN DAN 22 Jan]	48
NHAN DAN Comments on Major January News Items	50
Editorial Marks PRK National Day [NHAN DAN 7 Jan]	50
Editorial on Import-Export Law	50
Editorial on Investment Law	51

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

USSR Ratifies Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty	53
Embassy Holds News Conference	53
Gromyko Sends Message	53
Defense Sources Reject PNG Coup Plot Reports [AFP]	54
Minister Investigated for Election Donation	54

Japan

Talks To Start With U.S. on GATT Decision *OW021540 Tokyo KYODO in English 1515 GMT 2 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Japan's upcoming talks with the United States following a recommendation adopted Tuesday by the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) will focus on tariff measures for the protection of domestic farmers and compensatory measures for the U.S.

Japan accepted the GATT recommendation for the removal of import restrictions on 10 farm products adopted at a GATT council meeting in Geneva, but told the council that import limits will be maintained on two of the products—starch, and powdered and condensed milk. The recommendation stemmed from a U.S. complaint over Japan's import curbs on farm products.

As a result, Japan will soon start talks with the U.S. on liberalization schedules for the eight items to be decontrolled, officials of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry said.

The talks will also deal with tariff measures for cushioning the impact of import liberalization on domestic farmers and food makers.

Another major topic will be compensatory steps to be offered as a price for keeping starch, and powdered and condensed milk under import curbs, they said.

Such steps will probably include the expansion of import quotas for the two products and tariff cuts for items other than 12 farm products specified by the U.S. in its complaint filed with the GATT, the officials said.

Products likely to be covered by such tariff cuts include chocolate, grapefruit and walnuts.

The officials noted that interested countries other than the U.S. may also demand compensatory measures. In that case, Japan will also hold bilateral talks with those nations, they said.

Import limits will be lifted from fiscal 1988 starting in April concerning those of the eight items to be decontrolled which currently fall short of their import quotas.

The other items will be liberalized gradually in two or three years, the officials said.

Among domestic measures considered to cushion the impact of the decontrol of the eight items are the introduction of a tariff quota system and import surcharges.

In order to protect producers of canned pineapples, one of the eight items listed, the government will study establishing a fiscal fund to subsidize price gaps between domestic and imported products and implementing measures for the redevelopment of the affected areas in Okinawa Prefecture.

The government will also consider a demand from tomato processors for the reduction of a sugar consumption tax as a means of reducing production costs.

The officials also said that surcharges as well as the present import duties will be imposed on seasoned beef, boiled beef and hamburger patties, although processed beef and pork are included in the eight items to be decontrolled.

Those prepared beef products are not much different from raw beef, therefore, the liberalization of their imports could scuttle the current system of quantitative limits on beef imports and thus deal a telling blow to domestic stock farmers, the officials said.

The European Community (EC) also protects domestic beef producers by levying surcharges on prepared beef products, they said.

News Conference, Statement

*OW030509 Tokyo KYODO in English 0432 GMT
3 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 3 KYODO—Japan will promote the decontrol of farm trade and at the same time protect its domestic agriculture, Chief Government Spokesman Keizo Obuchi said Wednesday.

Obuchi, state minister and chief cabinet secretary, said the government will make great efforts to strike a balance as Japan needs to protect its farmers to ensure a stable food supply but is also under foreign pressure to open its farm market.

Obuchi made the comment at a regular press conference after the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Tuesday passed a GATT panel report which urged Japan to lift import restrictions on 10 out of 12 farm produce items.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Takashi Sato, in a written statement released Tuesday, said Japan cannot but retain import controls on two items—starch and powdered and condensed milk—to protect domestic farmers and food makers.

Obuchi said the government does not yet know what compensatory action the United States has requested from Japan for not lifting controls on the two items.

Sato said that Japan must lift import controls on eight items of the 10 products—processed beef and pork, canned pineapples, tomato juice, tomato ketchup and

sauce, fruit puree and paste, processed cheese, grape sugar and other processed foods. Starch and the milk products will remain under controls, however.

The 95-nation GATT panel earlier ruled that Japan's import quotas on the 10 farm products violate international trading rules. Last December, Japan blocked the adoption of the panel's report which was conducted at the request of the United States.

Sato also said that Japan will exert utmost efforts to initiate "domestic and cross-border measures" to prevent the import decontrols from adversely affecting Japanese farmers and the future situation of the nation's agricultural sector.

He was apparently referring to a decision by the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to extend subsidies and other forms of financial support to domestic farmers expected to be affected by the planned import decontrols.

Meanwhile, Mitsugu Horiuchi, president of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (Zenchu), a leading farm organization, denounced the GATT council meeting for adopting its panel report and described the GATT ruling against Japan's farm import controls as "very unfair."

Horiuchi said the GATT panel shrugged off Zenchu's arguments and declared the import controls on milk products illegal under GATT rules. Zenchu has insisted that milk products are a food staple needed to fulfill a part of Japan's food security requirements.

He said it is unfair for the GATT panel to urge only Japan to drop its import curbs on milk products since the United States and the European Community also impose import restrictions on milk products.

In a written statement released to the press, he strongly demanded that the government take domestic and cross-border measures necessary to promote the domestic agricultural industry. The governing Liberal Democratic Party has drawn extensive support from farmers in rural constituencies, and the farm lobby is powerful.

Shigenori Tokonabe, head of the Zenchu's farm cooperative branch in Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost major island, said he does not believe the government will lift import controls on starch and condensed and powdered milk soon.

Tokonabe, who has urged the government to retain import controls on Hokkaido's two major farm products, said Japan has only to offset its shortfalls of domestic supply of farm products with imports. He said Japan's farm policy priority should be to ensure a stable domestic supply.

His comments stood in sharp contrast to a U.S. stance which argues that there is no excuse for Japanese agricultural protection because Japan has a trade surplus of some 60 billion dollars with the U.S. and more than 80 billion dollars with all countries.

Another leader of Hokkaido-based dairy farmers, Toshiyuki Oikawa, the head of a farm cooperative in Bekkai-cho, eastern Hokkaido, said he wants the government to reform Japan's complicated distribution system, so that Hokkaido-made, inexpensive high-quality milk can reach consumers on the basis of free competition.

"That's the only way by which (Hokkaido dairy farmers) can survive the import decontrols," he said.

Sumio Tanahashi, a potato grower in Hokkaido, said he wants the government to refuse to liberalize starch imports in upcoming bilateral negotiations with the U.S.

Opposition Parties React

*OW020901 Tokyo KYODO in English 0434 GMT
2 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Opposition parties criticized the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party Tuesday for announcing a decision the previous day to liberalize imports of eight farm produce items.

The No. 1 opposition Japan Socialist Party said Japan is already the world's largest importer of food and needs no more imported farm products.

The government and LDP agreed Monday to liberalize imports of processed beef and pork; canned pineapples; tomato juice; tomato ketchup and sauce; fruit puree and paste; processed cheese; grape sugar; and other processed foods.

Komeito, the second-largest opposition party, called the decision unreasonable, saying agricultural trade cannot be governed only by economic principles and that many advanced countries impose protective measures on farm imports.

The Democratic Socialist Party, a moderate opposition party, said the government and LDP had no long-term agricultural policy and urged them to take the best action possible to protect farmers.

The Japan Communist Party, strongly denouncing the government for abandoning sovereignty over farm administration, called for the decision to be reversed.

U.S. To Discuss Stock Market Issue
OW021221 Tokyo KYODO in English 1157 GMT
2 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Senior Japanese and U.S. Government officials will meet in Tokyo February 17 to discuss ways of preventing a possible global stock market crash, Finance Ministry officials said Tuesday.

The meeting is part of regular consultations between the ministry and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the officials said.

It will be the first official talks between them since the worldwide October stock market debacle, triggered by the "Black Monday" Wall Street crash.

Among specific topics will be a Japanese system—not practiced in the U.S.—of limiting maximum daily price fluctuations of individual issues to specified ranges, the officials said.

Another will be the impact of futures dealings and computer-aided program trading on cash market activity, they added.

The U.S. side will be represented by SEC Chairman David Ruder while the Japanese team will be led by Tsuneo Fujita, head of the ministry's Securities Bureau.

Diet Stalls Over U.S. Port Call Controversy
OW020855 Tokyo KYODO in English 0334 GMT
2 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Opposition lawmakers halted a Budget Committee session of the House of the Representatives Tuesday morning in protest at a reply by Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita to a question about port calls in Japan by U.S. warships.

Questioner Tsuruo Yamaguchi, secretary general of the top opposition Japan Socialist Party, said it is natural for Japan, which maintains three nonnuclear principles, to propose prior consultations with the United States to inspect U.S. warships which are suspected of carrying nuclear weapons when they make port calls at Japanese ports.

Takeshita rejected Yamaguchi's call and said it is the U.S. Government, not the Japanese Government, which has the right to propose prior consultations with Japan, as laid down in notes on a bilateral treaty.

The notes exchanged between the two sides say major changes in the deployment into Japan of U.S. forces and in their equipment and the use of facilities in Japan as bases for military combat operations shall be the subject of prior consultation with the Japanese Government.

Takeshita said the government does not assume that Japan should propose prior consultations with the United States because such action would infer an assumption that the U.S. was not abiding by the agreement.

Yamaguchi refused to continue his interpellation due to dissatisfaction with Takeshita's answer.

The ruling and opposition parties are negotiating to resume the session. The interruption, which began half an hour after the session opened, followed a similar boycott Monday which occurred when opposition members walked out in protest at committee Chairman Koichi Hamada's handling of business.

Investigators Travel To ROK Meet KAL Bomber
OW021029 Tokyo KYODO in English 0206 GMT
2 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Three officials of Japan's National Police Agency (NPA) left here Tuesday for Seoul to meet Kim Hyon-hui, the self-confessed bomber of a Korean Air jetliner which was destroyed killing all 115 people aboard, the authorities said.

The police hope to learn more about a Japanese woman who Kim has said taught her Japanese in spy training that led up to the destruction of the plane over the Andaman Sea off Burma on November 29, NPA said.

The officials, from the NPA's Foreign Affairs section, also want to find out how Kim, 26, obtained a forged Japanese passport which she used in traveling before her arrest, it said.

Kim has told South Korean investigators in Seoul that she planted an explosive in the plane en route to Seoul from Baghdad, and that she had learnt Japanese from the Japanese woman.

She has reportedly said that her teacher's first name was Une, and that she was about 162 centimeters tall.

Kim was taken to Seoul after being found in possession of the Japanese passport in Bahrain. She arrived from Abu Dhabi after putting a bomb in the plane and leaving it during a stopover there.

The three Japanese detectives will stay in Seoul throughout this week, the NPA said.

Meanwhile, two Canadian police officials met Kim Monday to try to confirm whether North Korea may attempt to take terrorist action directed against South Korea at the time of the Winter Olympics in Calgary, according to informed sources in Seoul.

Pro-DPRK Association Protests Sanctions
*OW021225 Tokyo KYODO in English 1035 GMT
2 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—The pro-Pyongyang General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) Tuesday demanded Japan to repeal its sanctions against North Korea over its alleged involvement in the loss of a South Korean jetliner last November.

The Chongnyon, in a statement, also demanded Japan to redress its hostile and discriminatory policies toward North Korea and the Chongnyon.

The group's statement followed North Korea's countermeasures announced earlier Tuesday against Japan's sanctions.

The statement also protested to Japan against the barring of two crewmen of the North Korean ship "Mangyong-bong-ho" from entering Japan. The ship arrived at Yokohama port Monday and the pair were to attend a welcoming ceremony.

USSR Salmon Talks Set for 29 February
*OW020935 Tokyo KYODO in English 0250 GMT
2 Feb 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 2 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union will begin negotiations in Tokyo February 29 to fix this year's Japanese salmon catch quota in the northern Pacific, Takashi Sato, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, said Tuesday.

The two countries were originally scheduled to begin the negotiations early this month but they were postponed due to domestic reasons on the Soviet side.

Japan hopes to secure at least the same catch quota as last year's 24,500 tons in the negotiations, government officials said.

The negotiations may prove difficult, however, as the Soviet union is expected to demand an increase in "fishery cooperation fees" to be paid by Japan, the officials said. Japan paid 3.7 billion yen in such fees last year.

Narrowing Trade Surplus With PRC Predicted
*OW200629 Tokyo KYODO in English 0613 GMT
20 Jan 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 20 KYODO—Japan's trade surplus with China this year is likely to narrow further from 851.64 million dollars in 1987, a semigovernment trade group forecast Wednesday.

The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) based its prediction on the strong yen, which has boosted Japan's imports from China and at the same time led China to curtail imports from Japan.

The Finance Ministry said in reporting Tuesday that Japan's trade surplus with China last year was 851.64 million dollars that it had narrowed from 4.20 billion dollars in 1986.

JETRO attributed the dramatic improvement in the Sino-Japan trade imbalance to a recovery in the price of crude oil, one of China's key foreign currency earners, as well as the strong yen and China's import restraint.

A close look at Sino-Japan trade shows that Japanese exports of machinery and related equipment last year plunged 19.7 percent from a year before to 3.97 billion dollars, accounting for 48.1 percent of the total Japanese exports to China.

On the other hand, JETRO analysts said, crude imports from China jumped 30.6 percent to 1.55 billion dollars or 21 percent of the total Japanese imports from China.

Japan's apparel imports from China soared 49.9 percent to 832.5 million dollars, the analysts said.

They forecast that China will step up its exports to Japan this particularly of food and textiles.

Japan's exports to China this year will remain about the same level as last year in view of steady economic growth there, Beijing's restrictive import policy and the strong yen, which the JETRO officials said will prompt the Chinese to buy more from the United States and Western Europe.

National Unemployment Rate Down in December
*OW290359 Tokyo KYODO in English 0047 GMT
29 Jan 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Japan's unemployment rate stood at a seasonally adjusted 2.6 percent in December and at an annual average of 2.8 percent during 1987, a preliminary government report said Friday.

The December figure was down from 2.7 percent in November and 2.9 percent in December 1986. The annual figure was unchanged from 1986, said the report released by the Management and Coordination Agency.

Japan's 2.8 percent yearly unemployment figure compares with 6.1 percent in the United States, 10.4 percent in Britain, and 8.9 percent in West Germany, the report said.

After hitting a record 3.2 percent in May, the unemployment rate turned lower toward the close of the year thanks to brisk job openings, particularly in the commerce and service sectors.

The size of the work force was 60.61 million in December, an increase of 1.06 million or 1.8 percent over a year before.

It included 36.49 million men, up 1.0 percent, and 24.13 million women, up 3.0 percent.

Those who were employed totaled 59.12 million in December, an increase of 1.18 million or 2.0 percent from a year before. Those who were unemployed totaled 1.50 million, a decline of 110,000 from a year before, which included 930,000 men and 570,000 women.

The number of employed during 1987 averaged 59.11 million, an increase of 580,000 or 1.0 percent from 1986.

The 59.12 million people employed in December broke down to 8.73 million self-employed, down 0.5 percent from a year before; 5.11 million family workers, up 0.8 percent; and 45.07 million in other employment, up 2.6 percent.

By industry, agriculture-forestry accounted for 3.80 million, down 0.5 percent; construction 5.41 million, down 0.6 percent; manufacturing 14.68 million, up 2.0 percent; wholesale-retail and food service 13.64 million, up 2.5 percent; and services 12.52 million, up 3.9 percent.

The Labor Ministry also announced Friday that the ratio of job offers to job seekers in December increased by 0.04 points over the previous month to 85 jobs to every 100 applicants after seasonal adjustments.

The average yearly ratio for 1987 stood at 70 jobs per 100 applicants, a growth of 0.08 points over 1986.

The increase was due mainly to a sharp 10.2 percent rise in job offers over the previous year, reflecting a business recovery, the ministry said. The job offers in 1986 showed a 6.5 percent drop from the previous year.

Record Low Consumer Price Rise Reported
OW290504 Tokyo KYODO in English 0132 GMT
29 Jan 88

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Japan's consumer price index rose only 0.1 percent in 1987 for the lowest hike in 29 years thanks to the yen's appreciation and lower prices of imported crude oil, the Management and Coordination Agency said Friday.

The average 1987 index stood at 100.7 against the 1985 base figure of 100, up 0.1 percent from the year before.

In December the index fell 0.1 percent from November but rose 0.8 percent from the corresponding month a year earlier, the agency said.

The rise in the index at an annual rate of less than 1 percent for the second consecutive year was also due to cuts in utilities rates and stable food prices.

Meanwhile, the consumer price index in the Tokyo metropolitan area for January fell 0.2 percent from the previous month but increased 1.2 percent from a year earlier, the agency said in a preliminary report.

The index stood at 101.5 against the 1985 base figure of 100.

Nationwide, utilities' rates dropped 0.3 percent in 1987 for the first year-on-year decline in 32 years and food prices fell 0.9 percent, also the first fall in 29 years.

But housing expenses rose 2.8 percent due to spiraling land prices. Educational outlays also jumped 3.4 percent.

Ministry Warns of Revenue Shortfall
OW311239 Tokyo KYODO in English 0812 GMT
29 Jan 88

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Japan will suffer an annual revenue shortfall of some 5 trillion yen in fiscal 1989 and 1990 if the present government subsidies are continued, the Finance Ministry said Friday.

In its annual report on the state of the nation's fiscal health, the ministry called for reducing both farm and other subsidies and better educational and social security programs to help balance the budget by the target year of fiscal 1990.

The report was submitted to the Diet as reference material for the government budget for fiscal 1988, starting April 1.

In its eighth annual report since fiscal 1981, the ministry revised upward its revenue growth projection to 5.5 percent both in fiscal 1989 and 1990 in view of domestic demand expansion and sales of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. shares.

But the ministry warned that the government will show annual revenue shortfalls of 4.91 trillion yen in fiscal 1989 and 5.51 trillion yen in fiscal 1990 unless it sharply reduces farm and other subsidies.

The report predicted that the government can achieve its goal of ending the issuance of deficit-covering bonds in fiscal 1990 if annual rises in net expenditure for fiscal 1989 and 1990 are held down to an average 0.7 percent and the government continues to suspend regular fund transfers to a sinking fund—reserves for amortization of government bonds.

North Korea

Commentator Denies Terrorist Agent Report

SK031045 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1030 GMT 3 Feb 88

["Fallacious Piffle—KCNA commentator's article"—
KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA)—South Korean puppets are these days frantically spreading one whopper lie after another.

South Korean puppet Radio No. 1 on January 31 aired a preposterous report that the DPRK has trained "terrorist agents" to "obstruct the Seoul Olympics" and the like.

This is a sheer fabrication and an anti-communist smear campaign from a to z.

Their false propaganda is intended to justify the "results of investigation" into the KAL incident which has already turned out, no doubt, to be their own work, "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercise and their fascist tyranny.

Some time ago, the South Korean puppet clique made public "results of investigation" into the KAL incident and committed a despicable act of laying the blame for the "incident" at the door of the DPRK in a bid to deliberately aggravate the North-South relations and sharpen confrontation within the nation.

However, the puppets were cursed and denounced by the world people as it was made known to the whole world with the passage of time that the "results of investigation" were a fake-up full of lies, deceptions and contradictions from beginning to end and that the KAL incident was a self-made drama of the puppets themselves.

In a foolish attempt to temper even a little such curses and denunciation by the world people, they have conceived one more fake-up called "hindrance to the Olympics."

This is, indeed, a dastardly trick to divert elsewhere the people's attention, mislead world public opinion and thus attain their dirty anti-popular political aim.

As for terrorism, it is, in fact, proper to the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique themselves. The South Korean puppet clique under the aegis of the U.S. imperialists have committed terrorist acts in different parts of the earth, ruthlessly massacred Kwangju citizens and many other South Korean people in the past, and committed such never-to-be-condoned criminal atrocities as sending troops to kill at random peoples of other countries.

It is outrageous indeed that such terrorists dared provoke the DPRK with a talk about "terrorism" and the like after distorting facts.

Although the South Korean puppet clique is leaving no stone unturned in a bid to impair the ever rising external authority of the DPRK, it is a foolish daydream. It is as bad as lifting an ax only to drop it on one's toes.

They should clearly realize that they can get nothing from their futile anti-communist intrigues and false propaganda.

NODONG SINMUN Lists U.S. Terrorism Crimes

SK030639 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1531 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Pool item]

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA)—The United States can atone in no way for the crimes it committed against history and mankind while engaging itself in human butchery through a countless number of aerial terrorist acts, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed article.

The paper gives instances of aerial terrorist acts committed by the United States as follows:

- Terrorist act against a Panamanian airliner to kill the commander-in-chief of the Panamanian State Defence Army on July 31, 1981
- The explosion of a Cuban airliner in October 1976, which claimed the lives of more than 70 people including members of a DPRK Cultural Workers delegation
- An Egyptian jetliner hijacking case on October 10, 1985
- The incident of a South Korean airliner "Boeing 747" used for espionage against the Soviet Union, which claimed lives of its 269 passengers of September 1, 1983
- The crash of an Indian airliner "Boeing 747" to bury 329 people in water of the Atlantic Ocean on June 2, 1985 and
- The aerial explosion of the plane carrying Mozambican president Machel on his way from a foreign tour to assassinate him on October 19, 1986.

Far from apologizing for its criminal acts, the United States talks about "sanctions" against the DPRK, high-handedly carping on it which has nothing to do with the KAL incident. This is ridiculous.

The United States which has committed such crimes, as the main culprit of international terrorism, should be brought to international tribunal and face a stern judgement by the people.

South Submits to U.S. Economic Aggression
SK031017 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1009 GMT 3 Feb 88

["Submission to economic aggression of U.S. imperialism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA)—The puppet minister of commerce and industry was reported to have issued a statement on January 30, in which he considered it as a "matter of regret" that the U.S. Government excluded South Korea from the "general preferential tariff system."

This is an attempt to conceal even a bit his clique's treacherous submission to the economic pressure of U.S. imperialism.

Last year the U.S. imperialists threatened that it would be hard to give South Korea "general preferential treatment" unless it takes a "cooperative" attitude towards the execution of the U.S. external economic policy.

They forced the puppets to liberalize imports of 167 items and drastically lower the duties on some 150 items.

This year, the U.S. imperialists pressed the puppets to open markets to U.S. animal products, cigarettes and 56 other items of agricultural produce as well as insurance and construction and extracted a promise from the puppets to do so.

After gratifying their aggressive ambition, the U.S. imperialists mercilessly excluded South Korea from "general preferential treatment," turning a deaf ear to the puppets' request.

While saying not a word to the U.S. master, the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group is talking about "measures to make up for" that, in an effort to "justify" its criminal offer of South Korean economy to the tender mercy of the master.

This shows that the South Korean puppets are faithful watch-dogs of U.S. imperialism.

Commentaries Demand Removal of Nuclear Arms

Station Commentator's Article
SK020849 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1150 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Kyong-pok: "The U.S. Imperialists Must Withdraw Nuclear Weapons From South Korea"]

[Text] As is well known, it has been 30 years, on 29 and 30 January 1958, since the imperialists made public for the first time that they had deployed nuclear weapons in South Korea. In connection with this, our minister of the People's Armed Forces has issued a press statement and

the people's voices denouncing and condemning the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers for nuclear war echo more loudly. This clarifies our people's firm will to sternly block the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers to inflict a nuclear catastrophe upon our nation. This also reflects the stand of our party and the government of our Republic on removing the U.S. forces from South Korea and on independently and peacefully resolving the Korean question without interference by outside forces.

Despite the strong protests and denunciation of all the Korean people and the peace-loving people of the world, the U.S. imperialists introduced no fewer than 1,000 nuclear weapons of various types, including nuclear bombs, nuclear shells, and nuclear mines, in South Korea, turning South Korea into the largest nuclear powder magazine in the Far East, four times denser in deployment of nuclear weapons than the NATO region.

The nuclear weapons the U.S. imperialists introduced into South Korea and deployed there consist of nuclear weapons of almost all types they have so far developed and deployed overseas and they are deployed in all areas and strategically important points [in South Korea] where the U.S. imperialists forces of aggression are nestled. It is no secret that not only our Republic, but also other socialist countries of Asia are the targets of their attack.

Even while bringing nuclear weapons into South Korea on a large scale, the U.S. imperialists have escalated the very dangerous and adventurous "Team Spirit" joint military exercise. Last year, the rascals mobilized the carrier armada of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, B-52 strategic bombers—one of the three pillars of the U.S. strategic nuclear forces—nuclear-loaded aircraft, and such means of a nuclear strike as Lance missiles for this exercise, and even brought in Green Beret units that carried nuclear backpacks. Moreover, the U.S. imperialists mobilized even the E-4B, a nuclear command aircraft manufactured for the U.S. president and other warmongers to command, from the air, a nuclear war, in last year's "Team Spirit" war exercise they conducted a mock nuclear attack exercise.

Such maneuvers for nuclear war by the U.S. imperialists are criminal maneuvers to block peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification and to provoke a nuclear war in our country. If war breaks out in our country, it will easily spread into a nuclear war and into a thermonuclear war. For this reason, we have made every effort to remove the danger of nuclear war, to guarantee solid peace, and to provide preconditions for peaceful reunification. In recent years alone, we successively advanced the proposal to hold talks between military authorities and various other reasonable proposals to remove the danger of nuclear war and to alleviate tension on the Korean peninsula and have made patient efforts to realize them.

To make this year a historic year during which a new turning point for national reconciliation and unity is provided, we advanced a proposal to convene a North-South joint conference and even took the measure of sending a letter containing specific details of the proposal to the South side. However, the U.S. imperialists, who are frantically maneuvering to provoke a new war in Korea, decided to bring more new high-performance nuclear weapons into South Korea beginning this year and declared that they would also conduct the "Team Spirit" war exercise, a test nuclear war and a preliminary war, this year. All the facts show that the U.S. imperialists are nuclear war maniacs who are frantically maneuvering to provoke nuclear war.

If the U.S. imperialists believe they can surprise someone else, this will be a big miscalculation. Our people will in no way tolerate the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers for a nuclear war. The United States has no reason or excuse to introduce nuclear weapons into South Korea and must withdraw all nuclear weapons and forces of aggression from South Korea as requested by all the Korean people and the people of the world.

NODONG SINMUN Article

SK021525 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1505 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists should stop at once the provocative anti-communist confrontation and war games which are casting dark clouds of a nuclear war on the inviolable land of our country and withdraw all their aggressive armed forces including nuclear weapons from South Korea without delay. NODONG SINMUN today says this in a signed article entitled "U.S. Imperialists Should Withdraw From South Korea Taking Along Nuclear Weapons."

Noting that owing to the undisguised aggression and belligerent manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists, the danger of a nuclear war is growing on the Korean peninsula, the paper says:

As known, the U.S. imperialists have turned South Korea into their colony and military base and into the largest nuclear forward base in the Far East, a hotbed of nuclear war.

The number of nuclear weapons they have introduced and deployed in South Korea over the past three decades since they began shipping them into it amounts to over 1,000 pieces, which include almost all kinds and types of nuclear weapons they have so far developed and deployed.

Not satisfied with this, the U.S. imperialists plan to introduce more new type nuclear and chemical weapons and build scores of special depots for nuclear weapons in South Korea.

The "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, a nuclear war rehearsal in South Korea, vividly shows that the U.S. imperialists try to block the road of our people toward peace and peaceful reunification and ignite a nuclear war at any cost on the Korean peninsula.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"Speaking from the point of view of a fair deal, the United States is not at all justified in having brought nuclear weapons to South Korea and made it a nuclear base in confrontation with us who possess no nuclear arms".

The actual threat existing on the Korean peninsula comes from the U.S. imperialists' policy of military occupation of South Korea and their moves to make it a nuclear base, nuclear war provocation manoeuvres in particular.

The United States has been talking about "threat" of other country's nuclear weapons. But it has lost the face to speak of practical meaning of such "threat" and is not justified at all in having stockpiled nuclear weapons in South Korea under that pretext now that it has concluded a nuclear disarmament treaty with the Soviet Union.

The U.S. imperialists' moves to make South Korea a nuclear base are a product of the criminal design to realize their aggressive purpose, while escaping nuclear blow with South Korea as a nuclear lightning conductor.

It is plain that South Korea, a nuclear base, will be exposed to a nuclear strike in case a war is ignited in Korea by the U.S. imperialists and the puppets and it is developed to be a global thermonuclear war since nuclear weapons are not a monopoly of the U.S. imperialists.

If the U.S. imperialist aggressors take the road of reckless provocations, retaining their grip on South Korea as a dangerous nuclear base, a hotbed of nuclear war, contrary to the aspiration and desire of people for the peace and peaceful reunification of Korea, they would not escape world's denunciation and most ignominious and irretrievable defeat.

Our people will never put up with the grave situation today.

Papers Comment on Japanese Sanctions

SK031008 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0959 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA)—The Japanese authorities must not act rashly following the U.S. imperialists' anti-DPRK campaign, but behave with discretion, declares MINJU CHOSON today in a commentary condemning the Japanese reactionary government for taking "sanctions" against the DPRK in connection with

the KAL incident such as restriction of contact between diplomats of the DPRK and Japan, "visits" of Japanese Government officials to the DPRK and the "entry" of DPRK officials into Japan.

The author of the commentary says:

It is a grave criminal act for the Japanese reactionaries to have taken the "sanctions" following the U.S. imperialists' anti-DPRK campaign. This is aimed at impairing the external authority of the DPRK and isolating it internationally.

It is an unpardonable provocation insulting the sovereignty and dignity of the DPRK and an expression of their open hostile policy towards the DPRK.

The "sanctions" of the Japanese government proving its deep involvement in the anti-DPRK campaign of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets remind us of the moves taken by the Japanese reactionaries against the DPRK historically.

We cannot overlook the reckless attitude of the Japanese government to fish in troubled waters while dancing to the tune of the U.S. imperialists' anti-DPRK trumpeting and cannot but sternly warn them.

The Japanese authorities are scheming to get something by interfering in the Korean question, far from dropping their bad habit dating back to the colonial rule in the past. But it is an anachronistic delusion.

We cannot look on with folded arms at the Japanese reactionaries' anti-DPRK campaign but will counter their "sanctions" with sanctions and their "retaliation" with retaliation.

The Japanese reactionaries must discard their foolish dream of getting something from the KAL incident and give up at once the criminal anti-DPRK, anti-Chongnyon (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) campaign.

PYONGYANG SINMUN stresses in a commentary entitled "Japan Must Stop Its Anti-DPRK Smear Campaign":

The Japanese authorities must clearly know that as they took "sanctions" against the DPRK and are maliciously slandering it for no reason they will have to face our strong sanctions.

We will in no way tolerate any arbitrary acts to impair the dignity and chajusong of the DPRK and always return sanctions for the "sanctions" and retaliation for the "retaliation".

Chongnyon Issues Statement

SK030525 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0445 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo February 2 (KNS-KCNA)—The Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) called a press conference on February 2 and issued a statement strongly urging the Japanese government authorities to immediately cancel the unreasonable "sanctions" and correct their hostile, discriminating policy against the DPRK and Chongnyon at once.

The statement says:

The KAL incident is a drama staged by the South Korean puppet clique. The Japanese government authorities took the unreasonable "sanctions" against the DPRK on no ground, intensifying their hostile policy and discrimination against the DPRK and Chongnyon.

When the DPRK ship "Mangyongbong" entered into Yokohama, the Japanese authorities prohibited the master of the ship from setting foot on the wharf to receive a bouquet of flowers under the pretext of "ban on the disembarkation of crewmen." Right-wing elements and hooligans frequently assault and threaten the Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan.

The Japanese government's "sanctions" might lead the situation to such an extent as the massacre of Koreans in Japan at the time of the great earthquake in Kanto. This is a very serious problem.

Now broad segments of Japanese people sincerely hope for friendship with their neighbor, the DPRK, and want to see detente on the Korean peninsula and the peaceful reunification of Korea.

We bitterly condemn with surging indignation the Japanese government for taking the unreasonable "sanctions" in league with the South Korean puppet clique and pursuing a hostile policy and discrimination against the DPRK and Chongnyon.

KCNA Reports Joint U.S.-Japan Exercises

SK020509 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0443 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 1 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the Japanese militarists started another round of joint war games in Okinawa on January 29, according to a report from Tokyo.

In this war game the Japanese and U.S. reactionaries plan to "perfect" the joint operations of the fighters carried aboard the U.S. carrier "enterprise," a notorious pirate ship, and of the fighters of the Japan Air "Self-Defence Force."

Earlier, they staged a five-day joint air force exercise in Yamaguchi Prefecture.

Today the clouds of war are floating not only across the skies but also on the ground and in the seas of Japan.

Some time ago, a Japan-U.S. joint "staff commanding exercise" codenamed "Yamasakura-13" was held in Hokkaido, and a Japan-U.S. joint mine-sweeping operation will reportedly be staged in Oita prefecture at the end of February.

U.S.-Japan joint war games being staged one after another, timing to coincide with the announcement that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique will hold "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises, are part of the dangerous war provocation moves which lead to vigilance against a move which pushes the situation on and around the Korean peninsula to the extreme pitch of strain.

The U.S. and Japanese reactionaries should discontinue belligerent manoeuvres and act with discretion.

View of U.S. Urging Japan To Expand Defense
SK030519 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0450 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the Japanese reactionaries' scheme to call out their armed forces up to the Indian Ocean.

In a signed commentary the daily says:

U.S. Secretary of the Navy James Webb urged Japan to extend her "sea lane defence" area up to the Indian Ocean and play a greater military part in defence of the West. The Japanese rulers showed a sign of "perplexity", expressing "surprise".

The Japanese Foreign Ministry manifested Japan's stand on January 28, through its spokesman at a press interview, that "there was no possibility" of accepting the offer of the U.S. secretary of the navy.

It is a stage play aimed at weakening the reaction of Japanese people and public opinion that the U.S. secretary of the navy raised a new question and the Japanese authorities feigned ignorance.

To expand Japan's operational zone is a black-hearted, aggressive intention of the Japanese reactionary ruling quarters who are making haste with overseas military advance.

If Japan introduces airborne refuelling planes from this year, the operational zone of Japan airforce would extend up to the Indian Ocean far beyond the 1,000 mile range set arbitrarily by itself. And if the Japan navy build

and retain aircraft carriers in the near future, as it planned, the operational zone of Japan would not be confined to the Indian Ocean but extend to any part of the earth.

The Japanese ruling quarters intend to justify their arms buildup and war preparations by shamming alarmed at first at this demand of the U.S. imperialists and then making it a policy of theirs on the sly.

The Japanese reactionaries are hastening preparations for action to gratify their ambition for overseas aggression while joining the U.S. imperialists in their war strategy. Korea is its target No. 1. The Japanese militarist forces are trying to realize the dream of reinvasion of the Asian-Pacific region with South Korea as a foothold.

KCNA Reports Nakasone To Visit South
SK030445 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0424 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA)—Former Japanese prime minister Nakasone is reported to go to South Korea on February 10.

Nakasone is to visit South Korea at a time when the Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets are intensifying their conspiracy over the faked KAL incident. It is so ill-boding that we cannot let it pass unnoticed.

His South Korean trip on the threshold of the traitor No Tae-u's "assumption of office" tells that the Japanese reactionaries are entering a new grave stage in their criminal acts to encourage the South Korean fascist clique's moves for extension of the military rule, and lay a bigger hurdle in the way of the democratization of South Korean society and the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The Japanese reactionaries scheme to broaden the path of reinvasion of South Korea in return for propping up and encouraging the No Tae-u clique. But, this is a miscalculation.

Suppression Said Planned for No Inauguration
SK031014 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1006 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA)—The puppet Ministry of Justice reportedly called a "meeting of chiefs of public prosecutor's offices" throughout South Korea on February 1. At the meeting, it defined the "removal of 'he source of leftist pro-communist forces'" and two other points as the orientation of prosecution this year and decided to "mobilize all prosecutors" to this end.

This tells that the military fascist clique schemes to launch a wholesale suppression of the democratic, patriotic forces around the traitor No Tae-u's "presidential inauguration."

After No Tae-u's "victory in the presidential elections" was faked up by dint of unprecedented terrorism, suppression and fraudulent practices, the South Korean people dealt a blow at the fascist ruling system, chanting "nullify the victory" and "down with the military dictatorship."

This embarrassed the No Tae-u group on the threshold of the "inaugural ceremony of the president," the "National Assembly elections" and the "Seoul Olympics."

Daily on Kim Il-song Thesis on Light Industry
SK291047 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1035 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—MINJU CHO-SON today dedicates an article to the 30th anniversary of the publication of "For the Further Development of Light Industry", a classical work of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song (January 29, 1958).

Clarified in the work are concrete tasks to successfully solve all problems arising in the development of light industry including the problems of solving for oneself the raw materials of fibres, of developing food-processing industry and of improving the quality of products, and ways for their implementation.

Noting that this is a chuche-oriented policy of building light industry suited to the actual conditions of our country and the desire of our people, a signed article stresses that this work is a milestone which provides an opportunity of a new turn in the building of our light industry.

The article continues:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught:

"We should decisively develop light industry to solve the clothing problem for the people and produce large quantities of various daily necessary goods to supply the people with them in sufficiency. Only by doing so, can we radically improve the people's living standard and demonstrate more clearly the superiority of the socialist system of our country."

Over the past three decades under the correct guidance of our party the policies for building light industry advanced by the work have been translated into a proud reality in this land, thus demonstrating the great vitality in the development of our national economy as a whole.

On the basis of the powerful heavy industry, well-equipped light industry bases are built up in the country to produce at will light industry goods needed for the people's living, and minor local factories and daily necessities workshops and workteams made their appearance in various parts of the country.

With the rapid development of the heavy industry including the chemical and metal industries, large quantities of chemical fibres, synthetic resin and basic chemical products are turned out and various kinds of modern machinery needed for the development of light industry produced and supplied.

Our light industry processes in time the growing farm produce, industrial crops and aquatic products so as to satisfactorily meet for itself the demands of the light industry goods for the improvement of the people's living standard, and plays a big role in ensuring the balance between production and consumption and between economic sectors and consistently developing at high tempo the national economy as a whole.

Noting that this year we are confronted with the task to open a firm prospect for the successful implementation of the third seven-year plan and improve by far the people's living standard, the article stresses that functionaries and working people in the light industry should bring about a new upsurge in the production of mass consumption goods.

NODONG SINMUN Praises Guidance of WPK
SK021038 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1022 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA)—The wise guidance of the party and the leader is the principal source of the greatness of our nation and a firm guarantee for our people to live as a dignified and proud nation in the future, too, stresses NODONG SINMUN today.

In a signed article headlined "Exalted Dignity of the Korean Nation Is a Great Pride of the workers' Party Era" the daily says:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught as follows: "Never ... in the national history of 5,000 years has our country exalted the dignity and honour of the Korean nation before the whole world with such high international authority and great influence as it has today. This is a great pride and honour of our people."

The dignity and honour of the Korean nation lie, above all, in that the Korean people are successfully hewing out their destiny with strong spirit of national independence.

Today the Workers' Party of Korea is wisely leading the Korean people so that they make revolution by their own efforts in the spirit of national independence.

As long as there are the great guidance to the road of independence and the revolutionary people firmly armed with its spirit, no one can impair the dignity of our country and nation.

The era of our party is, therefore, recorded in the history as a glorious one in which the spirit of national independence is most fully displayed.

The dignity and honour of our people also lie in that they live and make revolution in the homeland of chuche, a socialist power, independent and self-sufficient.

All lines and policies regarding politics, economy, culture, military and all other fields shaped by our party are aimed at defending national sovereignty and all its new plans for economic construction are designed to augment the power of the country in every way.

It is because our country is shedding more brilliant rays as a socialist power, independent, self-sufficient and self-reliant in national defence, under the leadership of our party that our people is making a positive contribution to the development of the era and the cause of independence against imperialism as a most dignified and proud people.

Overall development and efflorescence in all fields are what made our people dignified and honoured.

Destroyed factories, backward agriculture and safes containing only accounts books were all that left for us at the time when Korea was liberated from the yoke of the Japanese imperialist colonial rule. [sentence as received] But now we have created valuable material and cultural wealth to be handed down through generations as well as the title of Korea. All this wealth, our pride, has been secured in the era of the Workers' Party. This exalts our people's dignity and pride.

It is thanks to the great leader that today the Korean people enjoy a high dignity as an independent nation and have a bright future before them.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song has always led the struggle of the grandeur and development of the country and the prosperity of the nation to victory and our party centre is successfully carrying into effect his lofty intention.

Revolutionary Organization Activities Viewed

*SK301036 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1018 GMT 30 Jan 88*

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a signed article entitled "Intensive Organizational Activities Are Necessary for Consolidating and Developing Socio-Political Organism".

The article says in part:

In his work "On Some Problems of Education in the Chuche Idea", dear comrade Kim Chong-il gave a profound exposition of the problem of inter-relationship of revolutionary organizational and ideological activities and the socio-political organism.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, said:

"It is only when people take an active part in organizational and ideological activities as members of a party organization or a socio-political organization led by the party that they can become more closely tied in kinship with the leader, the centre of the socio-political organism, and exalt their socio-political integrity."

Revolutionary organizational activities first of all help towards tying in kinship people with the leader, the centre of the socio-political organism.

The centre which has unified command of the activities of the life of the socio-political organism is the leader, the top brain in the socio-political community.

The organizational and ideological combination of individuals and the leader, the centre of the socio-political organism, can be formed and consolidated through revolutionary organizational activities.

Only when people take an active part in organizational and ideological activities as members of a party organization or a socio-political organization led by the party, can they become closely tied organizationally and ideologically with the leader, the centre of the socio-political organism.

Revolutionary organizational activities let people not only advance along the road guided by the leader, upholding his idea but also give full play to the relationship of revolutionary duty and comradeship, cherishing them in their hearts.

Only through political and organizational activities, people can form a true comradeship between revolutionary comrades, the human relationship based on the revolutionary duty and comradeship, and consistently consolidate and develop it.

Revolutionary organizational activities also help people acquire a socio-political integrity and add lustre to it.

They play a very important role in man's activities to acquire the eternal socio-political integrity.

The revolutionary idea of the leader is the ideological and mental pabulum which enables people to possess a political life, and the ideological and mental source of the activities of the socio-political organism.

The arming of people with the leader's revolutionary idea can be done successfully only when they take an active part in organizational and ideological activities as members of a revolutionary organization including the party organization.

Revolutionary organizational activities provide people with an opportunity not only to possess a priceless socio-political integrity but also add lustre to it to be a most worthy one.

People's activities of carrying out the revolutionary task given by a revolutionary organization are, in essence, political activities to defend and implement the leader's revolutionary idea.

Through revolutionary organizational activities, people can cultivate a strong viewpoint on the organization and discipline with which they love the organization and collective, value their interests, work and live thoroughly depending on the organization and implement to the end the decisions of the organization and its assignments.

Revolutionary organizational activities are, therefore, a source with which people possess the most valuable political integrity and add brilliance to it.

South Korea

Explosion of Chinese Train in DPRK Reported *SK021406 Seoul Television Service in Korean* 1200 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] [Anchorman Pak Song-pom] It appears that unusual incidents have taken place in North Korea. In December last year, a Chinese cargo train carrying ammunition was blown up in North Korea. People have deduced that this may be the act of forces that oppose Kim Chong-il. Reporter Chon Sok-u reports more about this from Hong Kong.

[Begin video report of Chon; video shows chinese newspaper and North Korean map]

Today SING TAO JIH PAO, published in Hong Kong, reported on its front page that a cargo train that came to North Korea from China carrying military explosives and ammunitions was abruptly blown up at Hwasong Station in North Hamgyong Province and that approximately 120 people were killed and about 5,000 people suffered minor to serious injuries. The paper noted that this fact was belatedly known to the public. The paper, quoting remarks of residents at the site of the incident, noted that the incident occurred in December of last year and explosives and ammunitions carried on the blown up train were military supplies sent to North Korea from China weighing several hundred kilograms and that this train was about to depart for (Yongban), a station used exclusively for military purposes, at the moment of explosion.

Hwasong County, in which the station where the incident took place is located, is in south of Chongjin, North Hamyong Province and is known to be a chemical industrial zone separated from Myonggan County in 1981.

This newspaper reported that people on the spot believe that this incident was caused by explosives installed by forces that opposed the system of inheritance of Kim Chong-il and that all buildings located within a radius of 2 km were destroyed. [end recording]

Foreign Women Said Kidnapped, Sent to DPRK *SK031108 Seoul YONHAP in English* 1103 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 3 (YONHAP)—About 20 foreign women have been forcibly kidnapped or lured away to the North Korean capital city of Pyongyang, the NAE-WOE PRESS here said Wednesday quoting a reliable source.

NAEWOE, a North Korean affairs watcher in Seoul, quoted the source as saying that those women, mostly aged between 20 between 26, are serving as subjects of amusement for high-ranking party and government officials or foreign visitors there.

The aliens have been abducted by North Korean agents in Hong Kong, Switzerland or the Middle East, or enticed in with fair words promising a good pay and treatment, the source was quoted as saying.

However, even the enticed women are under North Korea's tight watch and control without receiving any remuneration, he reportedly added.

Medicine Export Deal Formed With Yugoslavia *SK030321 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English* 3 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] Riding on the trend of direct trade with East Bloc countries, the virgin export of domestically-produced medicine to the region has been realized.

The Health-Social Affairs Ministry said yesterday that the Hanmi Pharmaceutical Co. has signed a contract to export cefotaxime sodium, generally known as the third-generation antibiotic, to Yugoslavia.

The company has succeeded in developing the basic material for the medicine, only second to West Germany's Hoechst, with its own technology.

Hanmi has applied for patent rights of the material in 20 advanced countries such as the United States, Japan and France.

Some 500 kg of the material, worth \$750,000, will be shipped to the East-bloc country, setting a precedent for other domestic pharmaceutical companies to follow.

Under the contract with Lek Pharmaceutical and Chemical Works, Hanmi shipped 80 kg of cefotaxime sodium valued at \$120,000 last week, a ministry spokesman said.

The Yugoslavian company was awarded an exclusive right to sell Hanmi's antibiotics to other East European markets, said Choe Son-ching, the ministry's public information officer.

The company began to domestically market the third generation antibiotics in 1986, one year after its research team developed the medicine in 1985 after a four-year joint research project with a team from the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology.

Large Construction Firms Eye Communist Bloc
SK030155 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] Big construction companies will be encouraged to advance into Communist countries such as the Soviet Union and China in joint ventures with foreign firms.

Prior to the entry into the Communist construction markets, they will also be strongly encouraged to jump into the industrialized free world such as the United States, Japan and Canada.

The move has been prompted by the planned opening of the Hungarian trade office here and the staging of the Seoul Olympic Games.

Under the government's active policy on overseas construction, large-sized companies have been seeking partners from the United States, Japan and other industrialized countries for tie-up on technologies or capital investment for the entry into the Communist bloc.

Construction sources said several builders have already established technical or capital investment ventures with foreign counterparts.

Korean builders with sound financial bases include Dae-woo Corp., Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co., Ssangyong Construction, Samsung, Hanil and Samwhan.

A government official said that the current account surplus is a major factor which will help construction companies in actively seeking their entry into advanced countries. They are also given various advantages such as eased foreign exchange control and greater availability of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund.

Construction sources said China and other East European countries are expected to increase investments in the construction of factories and development of land under their plans for economic revitalization.

Domestic construction companies are seeking partners from the United States, Japan and Hong Kong to enter the Chinese and East bloc construction markets.

The Soviet Union has also been developing land and increasing timber production. To participate in the market, domestic companies are seeking partners from third countries following inspection trips to the country.

Trade Delegation Leaves for Talks With EC
SK030329 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Feb 88 p 6

[Text] A Korean trade delegation will depart for Europe today for a round of negotiations with the 12-member European Community to settle various trade issues separating Korea and the community.

Yu Tok-hwan, director general of the international trade promotion bureau at the Trade-Industry Ministry will head the delegation which will be in Europe until Feb. 12.

Among the trade issues pending between Korea and the European Community are the community's growing restrictions on imports of Korean steel products, electronics and footwear.

The Trade-Industry Ministry said that the community intends to curtail imports of steel products because of a reduction of its steel production facilities associated with the projected reform of its steel industry.

As a result, the Korean delegation will request the community side to take a flexible attitude to imports of steel products as well as to the setting of their prices on the community market.

The ministry also said that the community has recently decided to control import volume of Korean and Taiwanese footwear.

The community decision to restrict imports of footwear from Korea and the Republic of China was made following an investigation of damages to the community's footwear industry as requested by Italy in August last year.

In the meantime, dumping suits are increasingly being filed in the 12-member community against Korean electronic products to sharply reduce their share of the community market.

The thorny trade issues posed by steel products, footwear and electronics are now vexing the government as the community has already removed its generalized system of preferences (GSP) favors for imports of Korean products this year.

The community justified the scrapping of its trade concessions by what it called the Korean government's discriminatory attitude to protection of its intellectual property rights as against U.S. rights.

To Discuss Steel Quotas

SK030217 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
3 Feb 88 p 6

[Text] Korea and the European Economic Community (EEC) are expected to clash over 1988 steel quotas at annual bilateral trade talks Feb. 3-12 in Brussels.

Ministry of Trade and Industry officials yesterday said the 12-nation European economic bloc wants Korea to freeze steel exports at last year's level.

Korea, meantime, will demand that the EEC substantially increase the quota this year.

In 1987, Korea's export quota to the common market was 236,000 tons.

Trade officials said the 1987 steel export quota was the same as the previous year's, prompting the need for Korea to have a bigger quota this year.

Korean-made steel products are more competitive because of the Japanese yen's rise, they noted.

As it stands now, the steel quota is renewed annually at beginning-of-the-year bilateral trade talks.

Korean steel exports to the EEC subject to quota limits include puddled bars and oiling, iron and steel coils for re-rolling, universal plates, and wire rod.

Also included are structurals, sheet piling, hoop and strip, alloy steel and high carbon steel, sheet and plates, spiegeleisen, and cast iron.

At the 10-day trade talks, Korea will be represented by a 10-member delegation led by Yu Tok-hwan, director general of the International Trade Promotion Bureau of the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Korean trade officials will also ask them European counterparts to ease their trade offensive against Korean commodities.

European nations are intensifying restrictions against Korean items ranging from electronics to textiles in an apparent move to ward off a surge in Korean imports.

They accuse Korea of dumping—selling goods abroad more cheaply than at home—in order to put competitors out of business.

The number of antidumping suits against Korean goods has recently increased sharply. There are antidumping charges against Korean-made microwave ovens, footwear, polyester yarns and bicycle tire inner tubes.

The strong trade assaults come amid reports that Korean merchandise exports to the EEC are rising rapidly.

The European Economic Community also scrapped its generalized system of preference (GSP) favor to Korea Jan. 1.

Chon Urges Tightened Security for Olympics

SK030323 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Feb 88 p 3

[Text] President Chon Tu-hwan yesterday called upon the Seoul city administration to complete the construction of various athletic facilities in time for the coming September Olympics.

While being briefed on Seoul city's major business programs for this year at the city hall, President Chon also asked for beefed-up security postures by the police to protect athletic facilities from being sabotaged by subversive elements.

The President told the Seoul Police to strengthen their patrol activities to prevent the outbreak of felonious crimes such as hold-ups.

President Chon later visited the chongsu Vocational Training Center in Pogwang-dong and encouraged those undergoing training. Chon's visit came a week ahead of their participation in the 29th International Vocational Trainee Competition in Sydney, Australia.

Major Parties Begin Debate on Local Autonomy

SK030207 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] The ruling and opposition parties will begin intensive debates on the scope and timing of local autonomy at the National Assembly today.

The Democratic Justice Party appointed Reps. Kim Chae-ho, Chong Chong-teck and Hyon Kyong-tae yesterday as negotiators for the legislation of autonomous local administration, scheduled to be introduced in May.

Their counterparts are Cho Hong-nae and Kim Chong-su from the Reunification Democratic Party, Kim Yong-pae and Yu Chun-sang from the Party for Peace and Democracy and Kang Kyong-sik of the New Democratic Republican Party.

Ruling DJP floor leader Yi Tae-sun said that negotiation would begin today with conflicting issues such as the exact timing and scope of the first-phase step taken by the eight delegates.

Other matters will be deliberated in a subpanel of the Assembly Home Affairs Committee, he said.

The DJP and the RDP intend to pass related bills during the coming seven-day extraordinary parliamentary session to open Wednesday.

If they fail to narrow differences within a week, as expected, the legislation will be referred to a new parliament whose formation depends on stop-and-go negotiations on the revision of an election law.

The government party has insisted on an early compromise on the new Parliamentary Election Law for the March elections so as not to interfere with the schedule for the election of local council members.

PPD To Adopt Collective Leadership Formula

SK030247 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
3 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] The opposition Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] yesterday decided to adopt a collective leadership formula in which the party is run by a supreme committee composed of a senior member and six ordinary members.

PPD president Kim Tae-chung is sure to be picked as the senior member and three of the six committee members will be out-of-parliament opposition figures who will join the party today, said PPD spokesman An Tong-son.

Under the collective leadership formula, Kim Tae-chung's authority is reduced as major party affairs will be decided by the supreme committee.

Kim's influence, however, will remain strong under the new system, sources predicted.

At a meeting of Executive Council members and lawmakers, the PPD welcomed in a statent 98 extraparlimentary opposition figures who are to join the party today.

The PPD also decided to give half of the Executive Council seats and vice president posts to the non-lawmaker opposition figures.

It decided to hold a national convention after the general election.

With the admission of the 98 opposition figures, the PPD will reshape itself and face the coming parliamentary election in a united and resolute manner, spokesman An said.

The 98 figures who will join the PPD today include 10 professors, five lawyers, four churchmen, and 41 former student activists.

The PPD will have a ceremony to welcome their joining at the party headquarters this morning.

Political observers said a much-talked-about merger between the PPD and the Reunification Democratic Party is now seen as virtually impossible before the coming general election.

They said, however, the two opposition parties might be united after the election. The opposition is divided into three factions—the RDP, and PPD, and a group seeking to form a new political party.

Changes Seen for Party Survival

SK030248 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
3 Feb 88 pp 2, 5

[Text] Kim Tae-chung's one-man rule of the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] is expected to end with its switching to a collective leadership yesterday.

The PPD yesterday decided to abolish party presidency held by Kim and adopt a seven-member supreme committee.

At a coming party national convention Kim will be named senior member of the committee which will collectively decide on key party policies, a job previously done by Kim alone.

The long-mulled change of the party leadership was regarded as a first major step for re-building its image in the wake of its loss in the Dec. 16 presidential vote.

The switch hardly seemed to come out of Kim's own will.

Instead Kim appeared to have been forced to consent to it under inside and outside pressure in a last-minute effort to allay public criticism of him and of the party for his election loss.

Kim's demotion to the senior member of the collective decision-making body also marked his first major slide in his political career which hit rock bottom in his second shot at the presidency last December.

The party's decision to switch to collective leadership came just a day after it announced admission of 98 outside figures, mostly dissident figures reputed for their long antigovernment struggle.

They reportedly had demanded such a change in the party leadership as a prerequisite for their joining the less than three month-old party.

It was for the first time that such dissident members, widely known as progressive forces, joined a political party en masse.

PPD lawmakers described it as the first union of "conservative" forces and "progressive" groups in the country.

The massive joining of the dissident figures to the PPD is expected to somewhat help refurbish the party's image and morale.

But political observers termed its admission of the "progressive" forces as an emergency blood transfusion.

They simply suggested it is doubtful whether the party will fare smoothly under the collective leadership in which the "progressive" forces are represented.

Observers aptly described the party as "in an experimental stage."

The dissident figures demand at least one-half of seats in key party posts, including supreme committee members. The committee members will be selected through voting.

Despite admission of the dissident figures, the party is not expected to take a drastic change in the party line, observers said.

They noted the party's existing platform closely matched that advocated by the new party members.

The dissident figures claimed that the party should represent the rights and interests of the middle- and lower-class merchants and industrialists and other alienated groups, a key part of the PPD's platform.

What also draws interest is that most of the new party members are young generation dissident figures who led democratic campaigns in the 1970s.

The PPD's embracing of the grassroots supporters is also designed to dampen debate on reunifying the opposition and ensure victory in the general election.

It reflects party president Kim Tae-chung's intention to curb agitation among party members because of the grand cause for integration and to face the elections with a reinforced party structure.

The PPD move is aimed at bringing into relief its distinction from the RDP and thereby take the offensive against it over the issue of "purity" at the general elections.

By joining hands with influential figures from the grassroots groups, the party intends to discourage a movement to launch a new opposition party and one step further to absorb its promoters. The birth of a new party would deal the hardest blow to the PPD.

Kim Tae-chung, who created the PPD two and a half months ago, now faces a change in his status by allowing the party to adopt a collective leadership.

His position will be weakened from an unrivalled leader in a one-man rule system to an elder among a seven-member collective leadership.

Party officials say his decision to turn to a new style of leadership might have been motivated by his desire to let in grassroots supporters without noise by accommodating their demand.

Another consideration which probably counted more, they said, is to protect himself from the public pressure to retire to a back seat. He has been a clearer target of such pressure than his rival Kim Yong-sam.

The collective leadership, when compared with the one-man rule, can be a more effective protection from public outcry for retirement.

In a sense, Kim might have wanted to change his role from a leader to a coordinator between conservatives and liberals or between existing party members and grassroots figures. Whether he wanted it or not, the need to maintain a balance between conservative and liberal groups inside the party will strengthen the power of the coordinator.

The final swing of the party to a collective leadership may be postponed till after the general elections as it has not fixed the date of a national convention which will decide upon the matter.

Three factors seem to have come into play in the postponement. First, there can be some noise in the selection by direct voting of seven party leaders at a national convention of some 2,000 representatives just before the general elections.

Second, the change of leadership prior to the elections may cause unexpected problems in strategies and put the party in disarray.

And last, the change may be adversely compared with other opposition parties which will all maintain strong one-man leadership for the elections.

PPD president Kim began to make efforts to recruit dissident figures when he met with some leading dissidents at his Tonggyo-dong home soon after his defeat in the presidential election on Dec. 16 last year.

After several weeks of negotiation, 98 dissident figures agreed to join the party. Thirty-three of them are members of a dissident group to promote the "unification of democratic political forces."

Kim formally split the opposition just one month before the presidential election by leaving rival Kim Yong-sam's Reunification Democratic Party along with his followers and forming a new party to back his presidential bid.

Several dissident leaders were asked by Kim to join the party. Three of them rejected the demand or deferred action, saying that they will continue to help Kim out of the PPD. They include lawyer Yi Tong-myong and Prof. Yi Mun-yong of Korea University.

Kim has said that Supreme Committee members will be elected through a vote at a national party convention later this month.

Three of the committee members will be selected from among dissident figures who joined from among dissident figures who joined the party, an indication that PPD power will be shared by figures in the established PPD and dissident groups.

Kim has showed signs of changing the party leadership system from a one-man rule to a collective system.

Among the leading dissidents who are favored to be named committee members are the Rev. Mun Tong-hwan and So Kyong-won, former leader of a Catholic farmers' group.

Three other council members are expected to be selected from among Reps. Yi Chung-chae, Yi Yong-hui and No Song-hwan, Pak Yong-nok and Cho Yun-hyong.

Some party members seem to be concerned about the possibility that dissident groups might rule the party as a result of the dissidents joining the party.

With their joining, intraparty controversy is expected over the platform the party pursues. Power struggles between figures in the established PPD and dissident groups are also expected.

DJP Ready for Action on Election Revision
SK030301 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
3 Feb 88 p 2

["News Analysis" column: DJP Ready for Unilateral Action on Assembly Election Law Draft"]

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party seems to be preparing for a unilateral action on revising the parliamentary election law as the self-imposed deadline for the revision's passage is approaching.

After putting a compromise revision draft on the table for negotiations, the DJP has asked opposition parties to come up with a unified proposal by today.

But what the ruling party is asking for cannot be easily realized. Two opposition parties favor the election of two or more lawmakers from each electoral district while one opposition prefers the election of one from each district.

The DJP, which proposes up to three lawmakers be picked from a constituency, insists a revision to the election law pass the National Assembly by Feb. 16 for the smooth implementation of the nation's political agenda.

Initially, the DJP proposed 161 of the 211 districts elect one legislator while each of 41 others select two. The remaining nine districts would pick three each.

But it reviled its proposal and offered to elect one lawmaker from each of 128 districts, two from each of 55 districts and three from each of nine districts.

The number of the districts electing two lawmakers increased from 41 to 55, accommodating the wishes of the Reunification Democratic Party and the New Democratic Republican Party.

But the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] demands that the nation adopt a system of electing one lawmaker from each district.

The gap between party policy on rewriting the election law and individual lawmakers' preferences make it hard for rival parties to reach an accord at an early date.

The current system of electing two lawmakers, favored by incumbent lawmakers, is regarded as tainted for it originated, along with unproportional representation, as a device for an authoritarian government to secure a majority of Assembly seats.

Should the small constituency system of electing one lawmaker from each district be adopted, DJP lawmakers from Cholla provinces and large cities would have to fight an uphill battle.

The DJP leadership may favor the small constituency system because it is believed to favor the ruling party against the split opposition and help win a majority of seats despite anticipated losses in layge cities and the Cholla provinces.

When it is deemed impossible to reach an accord with opposition parties, the ruling party may adopt the small constituency system and push for its passage through the Assembly.

The ruling party, which earlier wished to hold the general election this month, has decided to hold it next month because of a failure to agree on a revision draft with the opposition parties.

For the election to be held next month, the ruling party maintains the revision should be approved by the Assembly by Feb. 16.

During the period between the revision's passage and the election, both ruling and opposition parties will nominate parliamentary candidates, reorganize district chapters and engage in campaigning.

The key three opposition parties, RDP, PPD and NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party], seem to be unified in rejecting the DJP's one-to-three formula.

But they don't appear ready to come up with their own unified alternative, largely because of their obsession with partisan interests and causes.

Kim Yong-sam's RDP sticks to its two-to-four constituency despite popular outcry against it.

People, including even Kim's former supporters, claimed the RDP switched to the plural seat system from a single-member one only to "barely survive."

Kim Tae-chung's PPD appears proud of pressing for single-member constituency, one long fought for by opposition parties until as recently as the last presidential poll.

But the one-seat system doesn't seem to be a consensus choice of the party's lawmakers who seek to run in the forthcoming elections.

A majority of them rather prefer the plural seat constituency in which they stand a better chance of being elected than in a single-seat one. But they refuse to be outspoken about it.

Opposition parties are making their own efforts to produce a unified proposal to counter the DJP's one-to-three formula, but the chance of success is regarded as dim.

For example, the RDP has been trying in vain to persuade the PPD to give up its single-member constituency and support the plural-seat system. But the PPD rejected it as "nothing worthy of consideration."

Monday, DJP chairman Chae Mun-sik said that if the opposition parties came out with a unified stance, the ruling party was ready to positively study it.

Desperate for early compromise with the opposition on the issue of revising the parliamentary election law, the ruling party Tuesday proposed a modified one-to-three formula.

The new formula is different from the original one in that the number of single-member constituencies is drastically reduced, apparently to appease the RDP and the NDRP.

The RDP officially rejected the new DJP proposal. But many party officials showed reserved interest in it.

It raised the possibility that a compromise could be reached between the DJP and the opposition parties, if the ruling party further cuts the number of a single-member constituencies while increasing the two-seat ones.

RDP lawmakers and party president Kim Yong-sam seem to share a common view on that matter.

But the situation is different for the PPD led by Kim Tae-chung.

Kim Tae-chung has refused to give up a single-member constituency system. He apparently believes that his party will become at least the No. 1 opposition party after next elections only under a single-seat constituency.

But many of his party's lawmakers, mostly those not from Kim's home province and key political stronghold of Cholla-do, seemed to favor a plural seat constituency.

Group Considered To Ensure Police Neutrality
SK030135 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] A government committee is likely to be formed to work out measures to help police do their duty without interference from political power.

Rep. Sim Myong-po, secretary general of the Democratic Justice Party, said yesterday that the ruling party is considering various ways of guaranteeing police's political independence.

"If necessary," he said, "The party will recommend that the next administration organize an ad hoc committee for that purpose."

The new body, when inaugurated, will also contrive steps to boost the morale and welfare of policemen, he said.

It will comprise police officers-turned DJP lawmakers, Chon Chong-chon and An Kap-chun, among others.

As a step to assure the political neutrality of the law enforcement authorities, the setup of an independent public commission in charge of personnel management and operations of the police will be considered, according to him.

Opposition contender Kim Tae-chung put forward a pledge during his presidential campaign to launch a Japanese-style public security commission in a bid to shield the police from the sway of political power. The opposition Reunification Democratic Party Monday also called for the establishment of a similar commission.

Group Considered To Ensure Police Neutrality
SK030135 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] A government committee is likely to be formed to work out measures to help police do their duty without interference from political power.

Rep. Sim Myong-po, secretary general of the Democratic Justice Party, said yesterday that the ruling party is considering various ways of guaranteeing police's political independence.

"If necessary," he said, "The party will recommend that the next administration organize an ad hoc committee for that purpose."

The new body, when inaugurated, will also contrive steps to boost the morale and welfare of policemen, he said.

It will comprise police officers-turned DJP lawmakers, Chon Chong-chon and An Kap-chun, among others.

As a step to assure the political neutrality of the law enforcement authorities, the setup of an independent

public commission in charge of personnel management and operations of the police will be considered, according to him.

Opposition contender Kim Tae-chung put forward a pledge during his presidential campaign to launch a Japanese-style public security commission in a bid to shield the police from the sway of political power. The opposition Reunification Democratic Party Monday also called for the establishment of a similar commission.

Burma

Diplomats, Journalists Tour Kachin State *BK291519 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Jan 88*

[Text] Officials of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] Central Committee Headquarters led by U Min Aung, member of the BSPP National Defense and Security Affairs Committee; Colonel Tin U, attached to the General Staff of the Defense Ministry; Colonel Khin Nyunt, director of Defense Services Intelligence; foreign ambassadors and military attaches based in Rangoon; senior military officials from the Defense Ministry; members of the local and foreign press led by U Khin Maung Aye, managing director of the News and Periodicals Corporation; and officials of the Foreign Ministry led by U Shwe Zin, director general of the Protocol Department visited Kachin State in the Northern Military Command on 28 January and returned to Rangoon this afternoon.

The BSPP officials, ambassadors, military attaches, and members of the local and foreign press arrived in Myitkyina on the morning of 28 January in a special plane of the Air Transport Corporation. They were welcomed at Myitkyina's No 503 air base by Brigadier General Kyaw Ba, chairman of Kachin State Regional Party Committee and commander of the Northern Military Command; members of the Kachin State Regional Party Committee; Lieutenant Colonel (N. Zaw Yaw), chairman of Kachin State People's Council, and members of the Executive Committee of the people's council; and military officials of the Northern Military Command. The guests were presented with flowers by local girls and were welcomed with traditional Kachin dances.

A briefing on the situation in the Kachin State for the guests was later held at the command's hall. First, Col Khin Nyunt, director of Defense Services Intelligence, explained that this excursion tour of the Kachin State was arranged to clear wrong impressions formed by the propaganda and fabrications spread by saboteur insurgents and reports wrongly presented by some foreign journals and to present the true situation in the Kachin State.

He said a responsible person from the Kachin State People's Council would first present a briefing on the Kachin State. He said questions could be raised to clear any doubts in one's mind. He said the second part of the tour would consist of a trip by helicopter to the Nahpaw region to receive a briefing on the military situation by the commander of the Northern Military Command and then to inspect Nahpaw camp. He said the guests could meet local people. He said due to limited time, the party would not visit Pajao camp but would fly over the camp.

Continuing, Col Khin Nyunt said the Kachin insurgents not only mined and destroyed railway lines and public buildings, but set off mines in the homes of innocent

people in towns and at public festivities. He said often they brutally opened fire and killed those suspected of opposing them. He said the people, who bore grudges against the Kachin insurgents for the atrocities committed by them, actively participated and contributed labor to the Armed Forces operation against the Kachin insurgents. The Kachin insurgents, who have suffered great losses, he added, spread fabricated reports about the Armed Forces to cover up their losses, prestige, and the people's punishment for their atrocities.

He said the visitors could ask the local people and Nahpaw villagers, who had actively worked with the military columns during the military operation and jointly waged struggle with the Army, whether the Armed Forces had committed atrocities against local villagers as claimed by the propaganda and fabricated reports of the Kachin insurgents.

Next, Lt Col (N. Zaw Yaw), chairman of the Kachin State People's Council, briefed the guests on management, economic, and social conditions in the Kachin State. The questions raised by the diplomats and members of the local and foreign press were answered by the commander of the Northern Military Command, the director of the Defense Services Intelligence, and the chairman of the state people's council.

The BSPP officials, diplomats, and members of the local and foreign press visited the Nahpaw region by helicopter. Brig Gen Kyaw Ba, commander of the Northern Military Command briefed the guests on the military operations. Following the briefing, the diplomats and members of the local and foreign press had a friendly meeting with the local people of Nahpaw and inspected the place. The diplomats and members of the local and foreign press then flew over Pajao camp by helicopter and left for Myitkyina.

In the evening, the chairman of the Kachin State People's Council held a banquet for the guests at the reception hall of the Military Command Headquarters and entertained them with traditional songs and dances.

The diplomats and members of the local and foreign press today visited a hospital for treating drug addicts in Myitkyina and were briefed on drug addiction and treatment in Kachin State by Dr U Kyaw Kyaw, head of the state's Health Department and Dr U Ba Thauang, supervisor of the drug addiction treatment hospital.

After an inspection of the hospital, the diplomats donated 4,215 kyat to the hospital. The diplomats and members of the local and foreign press left for Rangoon after a tour of Myitkyina. The party arrived back at the Rangoon airport at 1215.

View of Insurgent Leaders' Traits, Actions
BK021235 Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 25 Jan 88 p 5

[Tun Zaw Htwe Article: "Three Paper Tigers"]

[Excerpts] Leader of the Burma Communist Party (BCP) Ba Thein Tin, leader of the KNU [Karen National Union] Karen insurgents Nga Mya [derogatory term for Bo Mya], and leader of the KIA [Kachin Independence Army] Kachin insurgents Brang Seng top the insurgents and destructive elements who have been constantly trying to destroy the perpetuity of the independence and sovereignty of the State and the well-being and interests of the indigenous working people. [passage omitted]

BCP leader Ba Thein Tin, whose health is deteriorating seriously, is taking refuge in a border area and undergoing medical treatment. He is one who once went abroad and sought help for the continued existence of the BCP's.

At present Ba Thein Tin is incapable of providing leadership and guidance to the BCP, which is deteriorating both politically and militarily.

The BCPs are militarily at their tether's end and have to concentrate on expanding their opium business. The opium business is directly controlled by the central headquarters which gets BCP units to undertake the business as a group to ensure that it has not become individual business. It is learnt that the BCPs are now able to get heroin produced in the border areas and that it is also extensively engaged in the business of 'yellow opium'.

Another person who is giving trouble to the working people is KNU leader Nga Mya. Nga Mya lives in luxury in border areas and is getting richer. He now has 200 million U.S. dollars in his possession which he has obtained from various sources. He has set up companies abroad with money he has obtained from robbing the people, from exploiting the rank and file and from the taxes levied by the blackmarket gates. As Nga Mya is doing everything for his own selfish ends there have arisen disputes and clashes among the leaders of the KNU and the followers are faced with hardships and are getting dissatisfied and demoralised. [passage omitted] So, as a way out, he has resorted to terrorist acts of getting his men learn sabotage methods from foreign mercenaries [as published] and killing off people exploding mines and time-bombs. The people are now getting more and more disgusted with the KNU insurgents.

Another person who is trying to outdo BCP Ba Thein Tin and KNU Nga Mya in carrying out terrorist acts and in committing crimes against the people is KIA leader Brang Seng.

KIA leader Brang Seng is a devil incarnate. He is both inwardly and outwardly rotten. He is evil. He is against the people. [passage omitted]

Not satisfied with committing treacherous acts and playing tricks within the KIA, the BCP and the Ma Da Ta [National Democratic Front], he went abroad to obtain aid to enable him to carry out more destructive activities in the country.

While in Manepalaw area in the Karen State, he made contacts with some foreign business and got a fake Taiwan passport under a Chinese name and left for a visit to three Asian and two European countries during October 1987. [passage omitted]

Brang Seng stayed in a well-known city in a Western European country for about a week and tried to visit the United States of America. Since Brang Seng is a well-known producer and trafficker of narcotic drugs and a blackmarketeer, he was not given permission to visit the United States by the U.S. Government which gives top priority to the task of doing away with narcotic drugs. A shameful rebuke!

Although Brang Seng ignores the hard life his followers are leading, he has sent his son "Seng Gu" to a place in North America with the money he has obtained from smuggling out jade and trafficking opium. So, naturally, he wanted to take the opportunity to meet his son and give him money.

However, he has not given up hope of visiting there. He is really tricky. He has a tricky plan. He spread news to the effect that a U.S. Air Force C-47 plane which was said to have crashed in an area north of Myitkyina during the Second World War was now in the hands of the KIA insurgents and that he was able to send back the remains of the U.S. airmen and soldiers.

Brang Seng arrived back in on 14 December last to Hweponlaung camp where Ma Da Ta chairman Saw Maurel was staying. On his arrival he at once ordered his men to search for the remains of the U.S. Air Force C-47 plane. Whether he would get the opportunity of visiting the United States of America much depends of whether he finds the U.S. plane. However, KIA military leader Zaw Maing told him that they had no time or opportunity to search for the U.S. plane since they were always on the run in disarray as a result of the operations launched by the Tatmadaw [defense forces]. Brang Seng's trip round the world to deceive others into helping him by covering up his treacherous acts is shameful.

In fact the people have come to fully realize that BCP Ba Thein Tin, KNU Nga Mya and KIA Brang Seng are paper tigers who are trying to get foreign help to enable them to continue to carry out their destructive activities.

Traders, Cooperatives Permitted To Export Rice
BK021356 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] It has been learned that cooperative societies and private entrepreneurs who are citizens have now been granted permission to export rice and broken rice.

Those who wish to know the details about exporting those commodities should enquire with the Ministry of Trade at No 228/240, Strand Road, Rangoon.

Bornei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister Assesses ASEAN Summit
BK021305 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
1125 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 2 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The early realisation of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality (ZOPFAN) will continue to be the cornerstone of ASEAN's political and diplomatic strategy in the years ahead, Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said Tuesday.

In this connection, the ASEAN heads of government will also work towards an early establishment of a nuclear weapons-free zone in Southeast Asia, he said.

"This in itself is no mean task, but its early realisation is critical as ASEAN lacks the deterrent power to repel any jingoistic ambitions, real or imaginary, from external forces," he said.

Thus, the thrust of the future of the six-member grouping would be the continued promotion of peace, prosperity and stability of the region, as enshrined in the Bangkok Declaration of 1967—which gave birth to ASEAN, he added.

Abu Hassan was addressing participants of a one-day seminar on "The Outcome of the December 1987 Third ASEAN Summit in Manila—What Was Achieved and What Was Not", organised by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) at its headquarters here.

He said ASEAN, well aware that Southeast Asia would continue to be an important area of interest to the big powers, felt that it was in the region's interest to ensure that problems that might arise as a result of big power rivalries would not seriously undermine the security interests of ASEAN and the other countries in the region.

Abu Hassan said that in this regard, ASEAN would continue to pursue diplomatic efforts to secure an amicable and comprehensive political solution to the Kampuchean problem. He said the third summit recognised the need for a sense of urgency for ASEAN to develop the appropriate atmosphere in order to improve the political uncertainties in the region.

"The summit felt that there was no better alternative than for ASEAN to continue to play a moderating influence and exercise its diplomatic persuasion and skills to help resolve regional conflicts," he said.

In reviewing the outcome of the summit, Abu Hassan said there was admittedly no euphoric or dramatic conclusion which could drastically change or influence the geopolitical and economic environment of the region in the immediate future.

He stressed that the summit was, nevertheless, timely as it underlined the importance to maintain and enhance the political commitment and understanding of the ASEAN leaders.

There was political unanimity and overwhelming understanding that the viability of ASEAN cooperation was the key to the survival and prosperity of the region, he said.

"This, to my mind, is one of the single most important achievements of the summit."

The catch-phrase "peace, prosperity and stability" of the region had been bandied about often and might sound rather hollow to the sceptics of ASEAN, but to ASEAN, these words conveyed a strong message which transcended boundaries, political orientations, administrative systems and cultural backgrounds, Abu Hassan stressed.

Defense Minister on Increasing Self-Reliance
BK021325 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
1153 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 2 (BERNAMA)—Malaysia Defence Minister Ahmad Rithauddeen said Tuesday.

The Defence Ministry would implement research and development (R&D) programmes, especially in the design and development of low-cost and strategic equipment that were within local production capabilities, he said when opening the Fifth Commonwealth Defence Science Organisation Conference.

This would complement the nation's desire to industrialise and be less dependent on export of primary commodities for economic development, he said.

He told the conference, attended by some 80 military experts including chief defence scientists from nine Commonwealth countries, that Malaysia would benefit both in terms of foreign exchange saving through import substitution and transfer of technology and reverse engineering.

Tengku Rithauddeen said through these R&D [research and development] programmes, the Defence Ministry also envisaged that it would be possible to extend considerably the service life and capabilities of some of the existing equipment and systems currently available in the country's armed forces.

"This is especially desirable in times of crisis when further imports are restricted due to various reasons," he said.

The defence minister added that many defence systems based on high technology development could have their capabilities enhanced through further R&D.

But, he said, the rapid development in defence technology itself, while increasing the choice of military hardwares and systems, had also increased their prices as well as operating and support costs.

He was glad that the four-day conference would address the question of effective use of military resources, and to reduce costs and increase output.

"With limited resources, we must try to use them in the most efficient and effective manner to meet whatever threats perceived as best we can," he said.

10-Day Joint Exercise With Australia Starts
*BK030914 Kuala Lumpur International Service
in English 0800 GMT 3 Feb 88*

[Text] Malaysia and Australia began joint military exercises aimed at enhancing the Malaysian Armed Forces' capability in conventional warfare. The 10-day joint military exercises would be conducted in the Hulu Kelantan area near Kota Bharu, 350 km northeast of Kuala Lumpur.

The exercises are intended to improve Malaysia's capability in conventional war by giving soldiers valuable experience and knowledge. Fourth Division Commander Major General (Burhan) told a press conference at Camp Desa Palawan in Kota Bharu.

Cambodia

14th National Assembly Session Opens
*BK030541 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 Feb 88*

[Text] A grand ceremony was held at 0800 this morning at the office of the National Assembly to open the 14th session, first legislature, of the National Assembly.

Present in the Presidium were Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee, chairman of the PRK Council of State, and National Assembly member of Phnom Penh Constituency; Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council, and National Assembly member of Prey Veng Constituency; Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of foreign affairs, and National Assembly member of Kompong Cham Constituency; Comrade Say Phuthang, member of the party Central Committee

Political Bureau, chairman of the party Central Committee's Control Commission, vice chairman of the Council of State, and National Assembly member of Phnom Penh Constituency; Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and National Assembly member of Preah Vihear Constituency; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and National Assembly member of Kandal Constituency; Mrs Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Central Organization Commission, and National Assembly member of Battambang Constituency; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the National Assembly, chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions, and National Assembly member of Kompong Cham Constituency; Superior Bonze Tep Vong, vice chairman of the National Assembly and National Assembly member of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Constituency; Comrade Nu Beng, vice chairman of the National Assembly and National Assembly member of Ratanakiri Constituency; and Mrs Chan Sun, cadre attached to the Kandal provincial army's political department and National Assembly member of Kandal Constituency.

Attending the grand ceremony as guests of honor were leaders from various central state institutions, ministries, and offices; Buddhist monks; and National Assembly members from the 20 constituencies throughout the country; as well as the comrades ambassadors and representatives of the Vietnamese, Lao, and Soviet Embassies, and the ambassadors and embassy representatives of various friendly countries in Cambodia.

In his opening speech, Comrade Chea Sim said that this National Assembly session is proceeding at a time when our people are implementing various strategic tasks and the three revolutionary goals and are welcoming the fruitful outcome of the PRK's national reconciliation policy.

Comrade Chea Sim went on: This year, 1988, is the key in the 5-year program for implementing the resolutions of the fifth party congress and the year in which we enjoy many facilities in our cause of defending our fatherland and our revolutionary gains.

Regarding the regional situation, Comrade Chea Sim highly valued and warmly acclaimed the meeting and talks held recently in France between Comrade Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. He regarded this as a significant step toward seeking a genuine solution to the Cambodian problem and a contribution to peace in Southeast Asia.

At the same time, Comrade Chea Sim highly valued the outcome of the summit meeting and the signing of the agreement in Washington between Comrade General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald

Reagan and regarded this as the victory of conscience and political responsibility, a significant contribution to the cause of peace and security on earth.

The participants then listened to a report on work activities of the Council of State read by Comrade Chan Ven, secretary general of the Council of State; a report on work activities of the National Assembly read by Mrs Phlek Phirun, secretary general of the National Assembly; and a report on work activities of the People's Supreme Court read by Comrade Khang Sarin, chairman of the People's Supreme Court.

Meeting Marks Indochinese Party Anniversary
BK020843 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0410 GMT
2 Feb 88

[Text] Phnom Penh, 2 Feb (SPK)—A meeting of some 2,500 persons was held in a senior high school of Phnom Penh City this morning to commemorate the 58th anniversary of the Indochinese Communist Party—3 February.

Attending, among others, were Men Sam-an, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Central Committee's Organization Commission; Nguon Nhel, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the KPRP Committee for Phnom Penh City; Yos Son, member of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the party's Foreign Relations Commission; Sam Sundoeun, member of the KPRP Central Committee and secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Youth Union; Pen Navut, alternate member of the KPRP Central Committee and minister of education; and Yit Kimseng, minister of health.

Also present at the meeting were Ngo Dien, ambassador of Vietnam; N. Sayarat, charge d'affaires ad interim of Laos; and Y. Razdukhov, ambassador of the USSR to Cambodia.

Addressing the meeting, Nguon Nhel said that the solidarity between the parties, armed forces, and peoples of Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos, under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, is an invincible force, a force stemming from the Indochinese Communist Party.

All achievements and all great changes taking place during the past 9 years, the speaker said, cannot be separated from the precious and effective assistance of socialist countries and from the active support of friendly countries throughout the world. The Cambodian people are well aware that the Cambodia-Vietnam as well as Cambodia-Vietnam-Laos special alliance constitutes a decisive factor of our revolution, and that the alliance of the three Indochinese countries with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries constitutes our staunch bulwark.

"We wish to have peace and stability in order to rebuild the country and, dictated by our goodwill, we have proclaimed our policy of national reconciliation in order to find a political solution to the Cambodian problem. However, the hostile forces have not yet given up their dark designs," stressed Nguon Nhel before going on:

"It is necessary to continue bringing into play the tradition of the Indochinese Communist Party and always to maintain vigilance before the enemies."

The first results deriving from the implementation of the national reconciliation policy have strengthened our people's confidence in the new regime and in the leadership of the party. They have also showed to public opinion the real situation of the Cambodian revolution as well as the goodwill of the Cambodian party, government, and people to find an acceptable political solution to the Cambodian problem and to contribute to turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation, Nguon Nhel stressed.

Indochina Mekong Committees Meet in Phnom Penh
BK021405 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1201 GMT
2 Feb 88

[Text] Phnom Penh, 2 Feb (SPK)—The 11th meeting of the national Mekong committees of the three Indochinese countries was held in Phnom Penh from 30 January to 2 February.

Attending the meeting were Kong Sam-ol, chairman of Cambodia's national Mekong committee; Somphavan Inthavong, chairman of Laos' national Mekong committee; and Dinh Gia Khanh, chairman of Vietnam's national Mekong committee.

The meeting participants reviewed the activities and results of the cooperation program implementation in 1987, and noted with satisfaction the harmonious development of the cooperation and assistance between the three national Mekong committees in the management of hydraulic resources of the lower Mekong basin.

The three national Mekong committees selected and wrote down in the program for 1988 five cooperation projects, and exchanged views on various measures to be taken so that the cooperation program will be implemented even more effectively in 1988.

The participants agreed that, as the trend of dialogue in the world and the region has made steady progress, the national Mekong committees of the three Indochinese countries must further develop the cooperation and mutual assistance in the interest of the peoples and their respective countries and that of peace and stability in the region.

They agreed that the 12th meeting of the three national Mekong committees will be held in Vientiane—Laos—in the 4th quarter of 1988.

The three delegations to the meeting were received by Tie Banh, alternate member of the KPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of communications, transport, and posts. They visited a fish breeding station, work to protect riverbanks, dredging and fishing activities in the Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers, as well as various aspects of the main stream relating to erosion and silting on the stretch between Phnom Penh and Neak Loeng—Prey Veng Province.

Chea Sim Receives Australian Delegation
*BK021342 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1100 GMT
2 Feb 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 2—Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, received in Phnom Penh last Saturday an Australian Christian delegation led by Bishop William Foley, who had arrived here for a tour of Kampuchea.

Chairman Chea Sim acclaimed the Australian delegation's visit as an encouragement to the Kampuchean people's national revival and development, and informed Bishop William Foley and his party of the Kampuchean people's great effort to surmount difficulties left behind by the Pol Potists at the time after the country's liberation and their all-round achievements over the past nine years.

He said these achievements are inseparable from the moral support and material assistance from the fraternal socialist countries, particularly Vietnam and Laos, from friendly countries, near and far, and from international organizations.

For his part, Bishop William Foley hailed the PRK policy of national reconciliation as a further step in seeking a political solution to the Kampuchean issue, thus contributing to ensuring peace and security in the region and the world at large.

The bishop said that, when back home, he and his party will do all they can to make the Australian people better understand the reality in Kampuchea.

KPNLF Denies Confrontation With ANS
*BK021544 Hong Kong AFP in English 1527 GMT
2 Feb 88*

[Excerpt] Bangkok, Feb 2 (AFP)—The Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) faction of the Cambodian resistance Tuesday rejected reports of a confrontation inside Cambodia with its Sihanoukist allies.

The KPNLF said in a statement issued here: "The cause and nature of the reported confrontation are not as reportedly alleged by the other party.

"The KPNLF have gladly welcomed in their bases all ANS (National Sihanoukist Army) soldiers and all other anti-Vietnamese resistance forces and have granted all of them every facility and help in their operations against the Vietnamese aggressors."

Press reports here had quoted Prince Norodom Sihanouk as saying in Beijing on Sunday that a group of KPNLF troops had encircled some Sihanoukist soldiers, demanding the return of 300 men who defected to the prince's army.

A spokesman for Prince Sihanouk's office in Bangkok said a number of KPNLF troops had left their ranks to join the Sihanoukists and an incident had occurred, but it had been "settled". He refused to comment further.

Reliable sources said the incident occurred in southwestern Cambodia, near the border with Thailand. No date was given. [passage omitted]

Son Sann Denies Criticizing Sihanouk
*BK030028 Hong Kong AFP in English
0012 GMT 3 Feb 88*

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 2 (AFP)—Cambodian resistance faction leader Son Sann Tuesday denied charges that his criticism had prompted Prince Norodom Sihanouk's resignation from the presidency of the Cambodian resistance coalition.

"Contrary to some ill-intended remarks, he (Son Sann) has always been supportive of the peace talks process initiated by the prince," a statement issued by Mr Son Sann's office said.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja said on arrival here Monday that Prince Sihanouk's resignation was "very much a personal thing, which was a direct consequence of remarks made by Mr Son Sann."

Mr Son Sann, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), has allegedly accused the prince of "playing the Vietnamese game" in peace talks with Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh regime.

Prince Sihanouk has held two rounds of talks in Paris with Mr Hun Sen aimed at ending the nine-year-old Cambodian conflict, but he made a sudden decision in Beijing Saturday to resign from the Presidency of the U.N.-seated Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK).

Mr Mokhtar said whatever results Prince Sihanouk and Mr Hun Sen may have achieved during their two rounds of talks in Paris have been "over-shadowed by the quarrel between the Prince and Mr Son Sann."

The KPNLF's statement, which was made available to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS on Tuesday, said Mr Son Sann "believes that, as a Khmer (Cambodian), he is entitled to opinions that serve the supreme interests of the Khmer Nation."

Mr Son Sann should not be blamed for "saying in all honesty" what he thinks proper to serve the interests of the Khmer people," the statement said.

The KPNLF on Sunday issued a communique saying it "deeply regrets" the prince's decision to resign and urged him to reconsider, but Prince Sihanouk has said his decision was final and irrevocable.

SRV Expert Dies in Phnom Penh Explosion

BK030649 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] According to a report from the KPNLF 3d Military Region's psychological task group, a Vietnamese expert was killed and a police chief of the Phnom Penh regime was seriously wounded by the explosion of a bomb planted at a police station in Phnom Penh by the KPNLF agents.

The report stressed that this bomb explosion took place at a Vietnamese-Heng Samrin police office called FA-79 [expansion unknown] located at an area south of Mohamontrei Monastery in Phnom Penh City. This slain Vietnamese expert's name is (Kim Lien Viet) and the name of the Heng Samrin police chief who was seriously wounded is (Kim Sokun).

VODK Sees Attempt To 'Vietnamize' Country

BK030401 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Station editorial: "Vietnam Is the Deadly Threat to the Survival of the Cambodian Nation and Race"]

[Text] The invasion into Cambodia by hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese troops at the end of 1978 was neither accidental, for self-defense, nor for the liberation of Cambodia as the Hanoi authorities have kept clamoring. As a matter of fact, this is a well-planned aggression prepared long ago by Vietnam in an attempt to turn Cambodia into a part of Vietnam in accordance with late Ho Chi Minh's minor, medium, and great Indochinese Federation strategy.

This Vietnamese strategy is very clear. For example, Laos has already been totally swallowed up by Vietnam. At present, more than 60,000 Vietnamese troops and tens of thousands of Vietnamese administrators are controlling and supervising all affairs in Laos, military and civilian affairs from the highest to lowest levels. At the same time, Vietnam has kept sending Vietnamese nationals to settle in Laos in accordance with its Vietnamization policy to turn Laos Vietnamese in terms of

population and territory as it did to the Champa Empire and Cambodia's Kampuchea Kraom territory at the beginning and the end of the 17th century.

As for Cambodia, during the past 9 years Vietnam has implemented a policy to massacre the Cambodian people and exterminate the Cambodian race through all kinds of methods, by using both conventional and chemical weapons, creating famine, jailing, and recruiting the Cambodian people to clear bushes in malaria-infested areas and war zones in the western part of Cambodia, thus causing many Cambodian people, young and old and male and female alike, to die everyday. The death toll is now more than 2.5 million.

At the same time, Vietnam has kept sending Vietnamese nationals to settle in Cambodia. More than 700,000 Vietnamese settlers are now staying in all provinces throughout the country. There are now more than 1 million Vietnamese nationals, military and civilian, in Cambodia. Vietnam has also forced Cambodian people—particularly Cambodian children—to learn the Vietnamese language, Cambodian women to marry Vietnamese men, particularly those disabled Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia, and Cambodian men to marry Vietnamese women. It has also allowed Vietnamese soldiers to rape Cambodian women to produce half-bred Vietnamese offspring in accordance with its policy to Vietnamize Cambodia.

The Hanoi authorities think that through the above-mentioned policy and criminal and barbarous acts, within the next 10 or 20 years there will be a great change in the composition of the Cambodian population, that is, the number of Vietnamese nationals will be equal to that of Cambodians. This will enable Vietnam to take deep roots in Cambodia and advance toward realizing its design to permanently annex Cambodia in accordance with the late Ho Chi Minh's Indochinese Federation strategy.

Due to this clear plan and strategy, despite the fact that they are facing all kinds of serious difficulties and although the United Nations has condemned them and demanded that they withdraw all their troops from Cambodia, the Hanoi authorities do not want to withdraw their aggressor troops from Cambodia. On the contrary, they have continued to fool others, clamoring about such and such a talk to settle the Cambodian problem. All of this is only to avoid withdrawing their aggressor troops from Cambodia and to carry on their policy to exterminate the Cambodian race, Vietnamize Cambodia, and turn Cambodia into a part of Vietnam both in terms of nationality and territory, thus realizing their ambition to annex Cambodia in accordance with their Indochinese Federation strategy.

Therefore, this is a grave threat to the survival of the Cambodian nation and race. It is as serious as the extinction of the whole nation and race. Thus, our Cambodian nation and people both inside and outside

the country must continue to consolidate our national unity and carry on all forms of struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors in order to defend our Cambodian nation and race.

During the past 9 years, all of us must have seen clearly that only with great national union will we be able to defend our nation and race. Our journey has come this far to the point that all of us realize clearly that we will certainly be able to liberate our nation and race from the claws of the Vietnamese aggressors within the near future.

We must continue our journey to quickly realize our final victory over the Vietnamese aggressors, thus preventing them from being able to extricate themselves from their quagmire on the Cambodian battlefield and from their all-round difficulties both in Vietnam and in the international arena.

After liberating our country, we must also continue to unite within our great national union to defend and build our country, thus making it prosperous rapidly, and ensure the survival of our nation, and prevent the Vietnamese enemy from exterminating our race.

Report on Summary of January Battle Results
BK030215(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 2 Feb 88

["Roundup of results of attacks to smash the Vietnamese enemy manpower and activities to repeatedly attack and dismantle the Vietnamese administrative networks in villages, communes, townships, and districts on all battlefields throughout the country in January 1988"]

[Text] 1. Koh Kong-Kompong Som battlefield: We killed 38 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 48 others for a total of 86 casualties. We attacked and dismantled Vietnamese administrative networks in 25 villages, 3 communes, and a township.

2. Leach-Peam Ta battlefield: 110 killed and 107 wounded—total: 217 casualties. Administrative networks in three villages dismantled.

3. Samlot battlefield: 108 killed and 126 wounded—total: 234 casualties.

4. Pailin battlefield: 167 killed and 195 wounded—total: 362 casualties.

5. Sisophon battlefield: 127 killed and 173 wounded—total: 300 casualties.

6. North Sisophon battlefield: 100 killed and 118 wounded—total: 218 casualties. Administrative networks in 28 villages dismantled.

7. Battlefields around Battambang Town: 91 killed and 83 wounded—total: 174 casualties. Administrative networks in 34 villages, 2 communes, and a township dismantled.

8. Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey battlefield: 133 killed and 145 wounded—total: 278 casualties. Administrative networks in 65 villages and a commune dismantled.

9. Preah Vihear battlefield: 28 killed and 15 wounded—total: 43 casualties. Administrative networks in a village attacked.

10. Kompong Thom battlefield: 41 killed and 53 wounded—total: 99 casualties. Administrative networks in 77 villages, 3 communes, and a township dismantled.

11. Kompong Cham battlefield: 14 killed and 14 wounded—total 28 casualties. Administrative networks in 37 villages and 2 communes dismantled.

12. Moun-Pursat battlefield: 65 killed and 81 wounded—total: 146 casualties. Administrative networks in 39 villages and a commune dismantled.

13. Kompong Chhnang battlefield: 30 killed and 28 wounded—total: 58 casualties. Administrative networks in 26 villages and 2 communes dismantled.

14. North Phnom Penh battlefield: 41 killed and 44 wounded—total: 85 casualties. Administrative networks in 25 villages dismantled.

15. Northwest Phnom Penh battlefield: 26 killed and 40 wounded—total: 66 casualties. Administrative networks in 24 villages, 5 communes, and a district dismantled.

16. Southwest Phnom Penh battlefield: five killed and one wounded—total: six casualties. Administrative networks in 31 villages dismantled.

17. East Phnom Penh battlefield: six killed and two wounded—total: eight casualties. Administrative networks in 18 villages, 4 commune, and a township dismantled.

18. Northeast-Eastern battlefield: 45 killed and 42 wounded—total: 87 casualties. Administrative networks in 70 villages and 7 communes dismantled.

19. Southwest battlefield: 64 killed and 86 wounded—total: 150 casualties. Administrative networks in 68 villages and 4 communes dismantled.

In sum, we killed 1,239 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 1,406 others for a total of 2,645 casualties, and attacked and dismantled Vietnamese administrative networks in 567 villages, 34 communes, 5 townships, and a district.

Briefs

Battambang Returnees in 1987

Phnom Penh, 1 Feb (SPK)—During 1987, Battambang Province, some 300 km northwest of Phnom Penh, welcomed back a total of 1,291 returnees, including 600 Pol Potists. The repentants brought along with them 847 assorted weapons and some other war materiel. [Text] [*Phnom Penh SPK in French 1230 GMT 1 Feb 88 BK*]

Additional Returnees

Phnom Penh SPK Feb 1—In the week ending on January 20, 63 people misguided by the enemy propaganda broke with the enemy rank and reported themselves to the revolutionary authorities, bringing along a number of arms and ammunition. It is noteworthy that on January 12 alone, five ex-Pol Potists with four guns in hand deserted their rank and crossed over to the revolutionary

authorities in Krakor District, Pursat Province, 150 km northwest of Phnom Penh. All of the returnees have been given full right of citizenship and necessities to embark on a new life with their families. [Text] *[Phnom Penh SPK in English 1140 GMT 1 Feb 88 BK]*

Laos

Radio Report on Thai Bombing of Boten *BK030151 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 3 Feb 88*

[Text] According to a local news report from Boten District, from 0300 to 1200 yesterday [2 February], the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries heavily fired artillery shells into the vicinity of Na Banoi canton in Boten District, Sayaboury Province, as their F-5 flew several sorties to drop bombs onto the area. It was also reported that on the same day they brought in more troops to continue their attacks and annexation of our Lao territory. This is an indication of the intention of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries to avoid negotiations to settle the conflict through peaceful means and to resort to military force to compel the Lao side to accept their conditions.

KPL Reports Thai Threat To Close Border *BK021028 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 2 Feb 88*

["Sitthi Sawetsila: Thailand Might Close the Border With Laos"—KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, February 2 (KPL)—Thailand might close its border in five of its provinces sharing common border with Laos if the problem will not be settled politically, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said in interview with correspondent of Thai Army 7th TV channel yesterday.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila gave such allegation while, for three consecutive days, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary forces have intensified their aggressimn against Lao territory in Boten District, Sayaboury Province (northwest) of Laos. During this period, they pounded hundreds of heavy artillery shells and bombed the Lao territory with F-5 jet fighters in order to cover several attacks carried out by infantry and cavalry troops. All these hostile acts clearly showed that out of using armed pressure against Laos, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary circles also use economic pressure against Laos, a landlocked country. These negative acts run counter [to] the January 25 Lao proposal asking the Thai side to immediately put an end to its bloody armed aggression and to hold talks with the Lao side in order to work out a peaceful and political settlement to the problem. Such allegation will only deteriorate the Lao-Thai relations and will worsen the situation.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Briefing *BK021221 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 2 Feb 88*

["Thai FM's Changing Position Created Confusion to Lao Side"—KPL Headline]

[Text] Vientiane, February 2 (KPL)—While Thai reactionary troops intensified their aggression against Lao territory, Thai Foreign Ministry changed from one position to another within 24 hours thus creating confusion over Thai intention to settle armed confrontation with Laos, stated the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR at a press conference organised here on February 1st.

The spokesman says:

"Following the statement issued on January 25th by the Government of the LPDR asking the Thai Government to settle the problems by negotiations and to send a Lao delegation to Bangkok in the beginning of February and if for any reason the Thai side would not be able to receive it, the Lao side stands ready to welcome a Thai delegation in Vientiane in the same period of time...

"On January 28, 1988 at 16:00 o'clock [0900 GMT], the Thai charge d'affaires informed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that: 'The Thai side would be pleased to receive the Lao delegation in Bangkok. It is the desire of the Thai side to have Mr Phoun Sipaseut leading the delegation or, if the Lao side proposes another person as head of the delegation, the Thai side is ready to consider it.' Afterwards, on January 29, the minister counsellor of the Thai Embassy called on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to forward the information that there will be no negotiation if the Lao soldiers do not withdraw from the disputed area. This about-face turned up within 24 hours and hence made the Lao side suspect the Thai Government's intention...."

He goes on to say:

"At the same time, only within 3 days—that is from the 27th to 29th of January 1988, Thai officials have twice organized large protest demonstrations against the Embassy of the Lao PDR in Bangkok causing damage to its property, which is a violation of the Vienna Convention on the immunities and privileges of an embassy...

"The military situation at Taseng Na Banoi, Boten District has evolved in a disquieting manner. Starting from January 27, 1988, the Thai troops have launched a large-scale and most violent artillery shelling and F-5 jet-fighter raid against the Lao positions. Many hundreds of shells were fired daily. Moreover, on January 30, 1988, Thai jet-fighters penetrated up to 30 kilometers inside Lao territory. These acts perpetrated by the Thai side clearly prove the scheme underlying their obscure

proposals and about-face: They want to divert the Thai internal and international public opinion increasingly demanding them to negotiate with the Lao side...

"The answer given by the Thai side, at first accepting the negotiations and rejecting them in the following day, has caused much confusion to the Lao side since it is not known what the real answer of the Thai side is? But the truth is that the Thai side has intensified their offensive against the Lao position with the hope of gaining military advantage so as to be in a position of strength in the negotiations...."

The spokesman adds:

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the LPDR strongly condemns the new and larger military attacks led by the Thai rightist reactionaries who hope to escalate and to expand the fighting in the area of Taseng Na Bonoi, Boten District, and demands that the Thai side cease these activities immediately since they are undermining the efforts led by the Lao Government to settle the problems by negotiations, and the long-standing expectations of the Thai people themselves as well as those of the Lao people and the peoples throughout the world...."

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the LPDR urgently appeals to the Thai Government to respond instantly to the consistent and reasonable proposals of the Lao Government in order to allow the Lao side to consider the procedures with regard to the preparation for the negotiations in Bangkok...."

He finally concluded:

"The Lao Government and people appeal once again to the brotherly Thai people to cooperate with the Lao Government and people in demanding the Thai Government to engage as soon as possible in negotiations with the Lao Government with the aim of putting an end to the armed confrontation and to settle the problems definitively and peacefully."

Rallies Denounce Thailand's 'Hostile Acts'

BK031012 Vientiane KPL in English
0914 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 3 (KPL)—Mass rallies were held recently in Namtha, Sing and Long Districts, northern Luang Namtha Province to condemn the attacks against Lao territory in Na Bonoi village, Boten District, northwestern province of Sayaboury carried out by Thai reactionary troops.

The speakers at the meetings denounced the dark schemes of the Thai ultra-rightist reactionary circles who are carrying out hostile acts against the Lao territory, thus undermining the Lao-Thai brotherly relations.

The demonstrators strongly condemned these Thai manoeuvres and described it as a grave violation of the Lao sovereignty.

Report on Thai Aide-Memoire on Talks

BK021458 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] On the morning of 1 February, the Thai Embassy in Laos handed an aide-memoire to the LPDR Foreign Affairs Ministry. The aide-memoire said that:

1. The Thai side will not hold negotiations until Laos withdraws all troops from Thai territory.

2. With regard to the Lao side expressing an interest in meeting with the Thai side, the Thai foreign minister is pleased to invite the Lao foreign affairs minister to Bangkok within a period of time.

From this aide-memoire, the Thai side clearly shows that first, it has laid out preconditions for negotiations, and second, Sitthi Sawetsila has expressed an attitude that distorts the content of the LPDR Government's 25 January 1988 statement proposing to hold talks either in Bangkok or Vientiane in February 1988.

With regard to (?the Thai side's claim) that the Lao side has expressed an interest in meeting the Thai side as stated in the latter's aide memoire, this stand by the Thai side shows on one hand that Sitthi Sawetsila has displayed a pan-Thai attitude. It also shows the Thai side's intention to seek all possible ways of avoiding negotiations between delegations of the two countries to resolve the current problems in Lao-Thai relations due to the nibbling attacks launched by Thai troops against the area in Na Bonoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province, and aimed at normalizing the long-standing friendly relations between the two countries.

Daily Says Nam Heuang 'Genuine' Borderline

BK021159 Vientiane KPL in English
0900 2 Feb 88

["Nam Heuang, A Genuine Border Mark"—KPL Headline]

[Text] Vientiane, February 2 (KPL)—The daily PASASON, today, clearly points out that Nam Heuang is a genuine border delimitation mark between Lao Sayaboury and Thai Phitsanulok Provinces.

In its commentary, the paper recapitulates that the explosion of Lao-Thai border armed dispute in the vicinity of Lao Na Bonoi Village, Boten District, Sayaboury Province, on December 15, 1987, was due to the unilateral modification of the real border delimitation in the area by Thailand. "We already have had a completely modified map," said Colonel General Siri Thiwaphan, commander of the Thai 3d Army Region, in his televised address on January 31.

In its justification for the modification of borderline, Thailand has adhered to the application of advanced technology in mapping including the launching of allegations against Laos and Vietnam. "This is merely stated with an aim of hiding an attitude of pan-Thaism against Laos maintained by the ultrarightist Thai reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles," PASASON notes, adding that Thailand may resort to the use of any modern technological equipment, but the border marks will never be misplaced. Thailand's unilateral recognition of Nam Heuang Nga as a border mark in the disputed area is a clear-cut violation against the Franco-Siamese treaty and protocol signed in 1907. "Luang Prabang's southern border starts from the Mekong River at the mouth of Nam Heuang river and follows the latter's thalweg until reaching its source at the Khao Miang Mountain. From there, the border traces along the watershed between the Mekong and the Chao Phraya until the point called Keng Pha Dai at the Mekong River in conformity with the delimitation recognized by the committee for the border delimitation on January 16, 1906." This is clearly defined in French and Thai languages in the Article 2 of the 1907 Protocol. There are no words of "Nam Heuang Nga" mentioned in this article.

"Therefore, the Thai officials' unilateral recognition of Nam Heuang Nga as a border mark in the disputed area, especially by Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, are groundless.

It is a naive action merely applied to modify not only the Lao-Thai border but also the international law," PASASON concludes.

Paper Hails Boten People's Heroism, Courage
BK031028 Vientiane KPL in English
0918 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 3 (KPL)—The main daily paper PASASON warmly hailed the heroism, determination and courage of Boten combatants and people in defeating all the attempts of the Thai ultra-rightist reactionary army to grab and to annex Lao territory in their district, in a commentary front-paged today.

The paper says:

"The entire Lao people switched all their attention and care to the Boten combatants and people who, since December 15 last year, have successfully defeated all attempts to attack and annex their land by Thai reactionary forces and have created great losses among the aggressors. Thai military adventure is going on intensifying day by day, all modern equipment, including heavy artillery 105-, 106-, 155-mm caliber, chemical and phosphorous rockets, and the use of air-raids by F-5 jet fighters, could not reduce the determination of Boten people and combatants in defending their motherland. The more the Thai ultra-rightist reactionary circles try to use force, the more they will meet with serious defeat.

The more they send troops to take over Lao positions, the more there will be victims among the Thai soldiers who are themselves victims of the reactionary circles in Thailand.

The commentary adds:

"The Lao people are proud of the Boten people and combatants and are satisfied to be informed that their compatriots in Boten have gunned down on January 1st [month as received] a Thai jet fighter F-5 which penetrated 30 km inside the Lao airspace over Na Kok Hamlet. All these preliminary victories clearly confirmed a Lao expression saying: Justice will always win and aggressors will always be punished. The achievements of the Boten people and combatants is a clear example of patriotism and sacrifice," the paper concludes.

Commentary on Thai Use of 'Provocative Tone'
BK030609 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Unattributed Commentary: "The Provocative Tone of the Warmongers"]

[Text] According to Thai television broadcasts on the night of 2 February, the Thai military leader has declared the opening of an extensive campaign to boost the morale of Thai men and officers in the Thai Armed Forces so as to deceive the latter to voluntarily sacrifice everything, even their lives and bodies, to enrich a small group of individuals in the Thai ruling circles. On the same occasion, he also declared that Lao soldiers will be defeated within a day or two. Such an arrogant, provocative and warmongering statement was made while the Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops were launching the most gruesome attacks on positions of the Lao regional armed forces in Boten District. They have further intensified artillery shelling at Lao positions while their F-5 warplanes continuously dropped all kinds of bombs, such as 250-kg, cluster and delayed-explosion bombs, onto the area. Moreover, they have made frantic preparations including the construction of roads for transportation of weapons and war equipment, the budget for which was approved by the Thai agencies concerned a few days ago.

Such a reality as the aforementioned coupled with the provocative and warmongering statement by the Thai Army commander, who is concurrently serving as supreme commander of the Thai Armed Forces, is a sign of the escalation of the military adventurism by the Thai troops who intend to increase the violence of their attacks and annexation of Lao territory in the vicinity of Na Banoi canton in Boten District, Sayaboury Province.

The actions taken by the Thai military circles are designed to coordinate with economic and political pressure earlier mounted on Laos. On 1 February, the Thai side submitted an aide memoir to the Lao side

turning down the proposed talks. Meanwhile, Sitthi Sawetsila told Thai reporters on the same day that the Thai-Lao border in five more provinces will be closed. All of this is meant to compel Laos to accept their conditions including the call for the withdrawal of Lao troops from Lao soil. In any event, since 15 December last year the Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops have opened several major battlefields. The army and supreme military commander himself directed the assaults on positions of the Lao regional armed forces.

Our regional armed forces in Boten District, however, have exercised their legitimate right, heroically and persistently counterattacked Thai troops, and caused them to suffer heavier defeats and casualties in terms of death and war equipment. The more our regional armed forces in Boten District fight, the more they draw new lessons and continuously grasp victories, promptly and duly punishing the invaders. In the face of the continuation and escalation of the Thai nibbling attacks, the regional armed forces in Boten District—the land of our heroes—will further heighten their vigilance so as to be prepared and ready to defend their most beloved fatherland, creatively apply the lessons they have accumulated, and persistently and heroically fight on their own initiative. The provocative and warmongering tone of the Thai reactionaries can never shake the heroic spirit of the people and regional armed forces of Boten District. Justice is always victorious. The Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops, who are launching nibbling attacks against Laos, stand for injustice and are bound to be defeated. The regional armed forces in Boten District, who stand for justice and are carrying out their sacred duty of defending their sovereignty and territorial integrity, will certainly be victorious.

Greetings on CPV Founding Anniversary
BK030940 Vientiane KPL in English
0901 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane, February 3 (KPL)—The LPRP CC today sends a telegramme of greetings to the CPV CC on the occasion of the 58th founding anniversary of the CPV.

After sending its best wishes to members of the Central Committee of the CPV, to party members, workers and the fraternal Vietnamese people, and recapitulating great achievements scored by Vietnamese people under the leadership of the CPV during the six last decades, the telegramme goes on to say.

“Those historical victories and precious experiences scored and drawn by the Vietnamese revolution in the past have greatly contributed to the strengthening of the power and strength of the three Indochinese countries as well as those of the socialist community. The victories scored by the fraternal Vietnamese people also highly

contributed to the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress of all the people in Southeast Asia and the world over, thus highly raising prestige of the CPV and the SRV in the international arena.”

Hailing the Vietnamese people's achievements the telegramme continues:

“We believe that under the guidance of the resolution of the CPV's 6th Congress, the people of Vietnam, under the leadership of the CPV having Comrade Nguyen Van Linh as the general secretary, will continue to develop their courageous revolutionary tradition in carrying out reforms in all spheres and will score greater achievements in socialist construction and in the defense of their beloved motherland.”

“The LPRP and the Lao people are glad to see that the special solidarity, great friendly relations and comprehensive cooperation between our countries and people be constantly developed on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.”

In its conclusion the telegramme expressed profound gratitude and sincere thanks to the CPV and the fraternal people of Vietnam for their precious, valuable help rendered to the Lao revolution, and wished for further strengthening of the militant solidarity, great friendship, all-round cooperation between the parties and people of the two countries.

Phoun Sipaseut, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, head of its commission for foreign relations, on this occasion, also sent a telegramme of greetings to his Vietnamese counterpart Hoang Bich Son.

Briefs

PRK-USSR Cooperation

Phnom Penh, 2 Feb (SPK)—A document on the implementation of the Cambodia-USSR technical-scientific cooperation in the fields of rubber, geology, health, and energy was signed in Phnom Penh on Saturday [30 January] by Sam Sambath, president of the Export-Import Society of Kampuchea—KAMPEXIM—and B.M. Mostowski, president of the VNERHTECHNIKA society. By virtue of this document, the Soviet Union will send its technicians and specialists to help Cambodia in geological and mineral research and the reproduction of the 1:100,000 geological map. The Soviet Union will help Cambodia in the exploitation of 150,000 hectares of new land for rubber planting and in the development of the economy and health. [Text] *[Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 2 Feb 88 BK]*

Philippines

Manglapus Favors Removal of U.S. Bases

OW030717 Tokyo KYODO in English 0633 GMT
3 Feb 88

[Text] Manila, Feb. 3 KYODO—The Philippines may opt to remove the U.S. military bases in the country and use the facilities for commercial purposes or retain just one of two major installations, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said in an interview published Wednesday.

Manglapus told the PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE he favors the removal of the U.S. military bases "if left to my own devices."

Manglapus will lead the Philippine panel in this year's review of the Philippine-U.S. military bases agreement, which expires in 1991.

The agreement allows the U.S. to maintain military installations in the Philippines, including Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, the two largest American overseas military bases.

President Corazon Aquino has said her government is keeping its options open until the bases agreement expires in 1991. The Philippines will have to notify the U.S. one year before the agreement expires whether or not it opts to keep the bases.

The Constitution calls for a treaty to be ratified by the Philippine Senate in case the government decides to extend the agreement or draft a new one.

Manglapus said Aquino's position no longer compelled the Philippines to follow the American view on the "Philippine factor"—that bases protected the air and sea lanes of Southeast Asia.

"There is no longer that unequivocal commitment to a hard anti-communist and U.S. alignment posture that I had to defend in the 50's when I was foreign affairs undersecretary, for what we thought then to be valid reasons," Manglapus said.

"Until the last minute, we are going to hold our options open depending on how we view the entire context of our democracy," he said.

He said the first option is to remove the bases and convert the facilities for commercial use. He said the facilities at Subic, west of Manila offer "some very exciting prospects" for shipping while Clark, 80 kilometers north of the capital, may be turned into the new international airport.

He said the second option of keeping the bases could be divided into suboptions, depending on conditions for allowing them to remain.

Manglapus said one idea was to keep only Subic and close Clark because the U.S. sees the naval base as more important.

A renegotiation of the current agreement in 1983 granted the Philippines 180 million dollars in military and economic aid annually for five years. Philippine officials have complained that the amount was small compared to what other countries hosting smaller U.S. facilities get.

The presence of nuclear weapons is also among the major issues that surround the U.S. bases in the Philippines.

Critics say the bases make the Philippines a "target of nuclear attack" by enemies of the U.S. because they are allegedly used as storage for nuclear warheads.

The constitutional ban on nuclear weapons and facilities in the Philippines is being wantonly violated with the unhampered transit of alleged nuclear-armed and nuclear-powered ships and aircraft, the critics say.

The U.S., following a global policy, neither confirms nor denies the presence of nuclear weapons in these bases.

GLOBE Interviews Manglapus

HK030841 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE
in English 3 Feb 88 p 2

["Excerpts" of Part 1 of interview with Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus by GLOBE editor Yen Makabenta and staff writer Julius Fortuna "last week"; location not given]

[Text] GLOBE: Outside of government, you were one of those who spoke consistently about issues affecting our foreign relations. Has being foreign secretary enabled you to introduce and implement your personal ideas and beliefs, or are you simply the executor of a policy that you did not shape?

Manglapus: During my years out of government, I managed to reach a level of understanding which enabled me to be more, shall we say, accurate in my assessment of the needs of Philippine foreign policy. Among these needs are first, realism which I may not have possessed to the full before about Philippine-American relations. Of course, in the mid-sixties, as some will probably remember, I had already begun to acquire this realism. There are speeches on record that I delivered in those years where I demanded a review of our relations with the United States based on a more realistic assessment of history.

Max Lerner once wrote that in the 19th century the United States had to slay the British father image in order to permit itself to grow politically, economically and even industrially. And so I felt that for roughly the same reasons, the Philippines should slay the American

father image and reduce it to brotherly size. Now we talk of cousinly size. Because in effect, in the end, that's what the Americans started to call the British Cousins.

There is no head-on contradiction between that position and the Aquino government's position even if we focus on the bases question. In the bases question, President Aquino rather realistically has taken the position that this government is holding its option open until 1991. There is no longer that unequivocal commitment to a hard anti-communist and U.S. alignment posture that I had to defend in the 1950s when I was foreign affairs undersecretary, for what we thought then to be valid reasons. Therefore, in that respect, I would say that there is no head-on collision between what I grew to believe even in exile and the present policy position of the Philippine government vis a vis the bases.

If left to my own devices, I may have declared as senator by this time that given all the reasons listed on both sides, all sides if you will, I would favor the removal of the U.S. military bases in this country. What I am expected to do now, however, which I think is still a realistic position, is to weigh the question of the bases not in isolation but in the context of our other problems, including our economic problems. This is the reason why I have accepted the position taken by the government. Until the last minute, we are going to hold our options open depending on how we view the entire context of our democracy.

GLOBE: What exactly will take place in this year's review of the bases agreement and what is it designed to accomplish? Is there a deadline for coming up with a new agreement or for our making a declaration that the bases must go?

Manglapus: There are two things that will take place in the next two years regarding these facilities. One, which will take place this year, is a review of the bases agreement in accordance with what was agreed upon in 1979. Both the United States and the Philippines agreed that the bases agreement would be reviewed every five years. In 1983, there was a review which enabled the Philippine government to tap, as it were, the aid that is tied with the bases and also a review of certain understandings regarding inspection of the bases for nuclear weapons, etc.—ultimately arriving at the situation we are in now. The bases are at least technically regarded as Philippine bases, not American military bases, although the actual operation of the facilities—naval and serial—are conducted by the Americans. But all this, which was not a reality before, is now reality because of the review. So this year, there will be another review which will permit us again to change certain conditions on the existence of the facilities. When 1990 comes up, we then have to decide whether we are going to let them stay or not, because the agreement provides for a one-year notification.

GLOBE: So the question of termination or renewal doesn't come up during the review this year?

Manglapus: It would come up if either side decides to ask the other to shorten the life of the bases even more, in effect ending (their presence in the country).

GLOBE: Supposing the two sides would want to have another agreement or treaty, would that also be up for discussion this year?

Manglapus: If it is not raised, the question about the new treaty will come up in 1990. The life of the agreement terminates in 1991, unless either side expresses a desire to engage in new negotiations.

GLOBE: Can we discuss the possible positions that the government is studying in regard to the bases? We realize that the basic position of the Aquino government is to keep all options open, which means silence. What are the options that are being considered? How are we to take the statement of Mrs Aquino some weeks back saying that we will keep the bases?

Manglapus: I have looked into that alleged statement of the President. All I can find is an article referring back to the speech which she delivered at the opening of the ASEAN summit. I'm glad you asked this question now because it gives me the occasion to analyze her speech in relation to this question. The significant part of the speech was where she stated that the Philippine factor—that's the word she used and it is important to note the construction of that sentence to appreciate what she meant—the Philippine factor is said to be responsible for the protection of the air and sea lanes that are required by the countries in the region for their supply lines and defense. Now note that she did not say: I, President Aquino, say to you that we are responsible for your protection. She said, "It is said ..." Now, if you ask who is saying it, well it's obvious—the United States is saying it. The United States is now saying in its official material that the facilities of the United States in the Philippines are here for the protection of the stability of Southeast Asia. The hosting by the Philippines of these bases is the Philippine factor. Now, looking at that sentence alone, you cannot really conclude that President Aquino was saying well then if the United States says so then we will just keep the bases after all.

GLOBE: Regardless of what was said, however, what seems important is our position going to the review. What is the situation now? Has the government already formulated its position or is this still subject to discussion and study?

Manglapus: There is a preparatory committee which will sit down and formulate a position for the review. And as I said it is hard to isolate a position in the review on what we are going to do in 1990. Therefore, the answer to your question is yes. A policy is being formulated, certainly for the review and by implication also for 1990.

GLOBE: From the public's point of view, it's obviously important that we discuss options and approaches in this review. What are the alternatives available to us? What will the preparatory committee really consider?

Manglapus: Obviously, the first option is to just eliminate the bases, and convert the facilities which are used in this respect. We do have the example of Singapore which was very successful in converting the British naval facilities to commercial use. The facilities that are at Subic and Clark do offer us some very exciting prospects for shipyard facilities, commercially speaking. Clark is a possible international airport which makes a lot of sense. There are very few airports in the world I know of that are as close to the capital as the NAIA. [Ninoy Aquino International Airport] Most airports are one hour away, which is what Clark will be when we use the diversion road.

Now the second option could be divided into suboptions if we decide not to eliminate the bases. Under what conditions will we keep these bases. There are a variety of suggestions that are being made. One is to keep only one of them. The United States sees Subic as more important to it. And if we keep Subic, on what conditions? We could suggest a more formal comprehensive compensation clause, because right now there is no such understanding. If we are going to deal in compensation against some options, what do you use first as models of compensation? There are those who suggest we should compare ourselves to certain countries in Europe that are being compensated.

Senator Discusses Japan's U.S. Bases Role
HK021505 Hong Kong AFP in English 1500 GMT
2 Feb 88

[Text] Manila, Feb 2 (AFP)—A leading Philippine senator Tuesday said Tokyo should help compensate Manila if it extends leases on U.S. bases here because the Japanese benefit from the security the facilities provide.

"They have profited from the umbrella which the U.S. has provided for them, which includes the umbrella of the U.S. bases situated in the Philippines, and they have not paid much for their defense," Senator Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Leticia Shahani said.

Observers said the U.S. Government considers Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, both north of Manila, as crucial to the regional balance of power and hopes Manila will extend the current agreement on them, which expires in 1991.

The Japanese "should contribute to the defense of the region, provided they do not attempt a repeat of World War II," Mrs Shahani told reporters, referring to the Japanese occupation of the Philippines and much of Asia.

Mrs Shahani belongs to a joint legislative-executive group created by President Corazon Aquino to draw up Manila's agenda for a review with the United States later this year of the bases agreement.

Under the agreement, Washington pledged 900 million dollars in economic and military aid to Manila for a five-year period ending in 1989.

Mrs Shahani said the compensation package was "small compared to what they (the Americans) pay Turkey and Spain" for similar military installations.

In the first meeting of the bases' review committee Monday, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said the Philippine side will call for a discussion of a constitutional ban on nuclear weapons on Philippine territory and a new compensation package tied to the current agreement.

Manila will also raise the issue of legal jurisdiction over crimes committed by U.S. servicemen in the Philippines and labor problems involving 68,000 Filipinos employed by Clark and Subic, he said.

Some congressmen and businessmen have suggested that Washington write off part of Manila's 28 billion-dollar foreign debt in return for a new three- to five-year treaty after 1991.

Meanwhile, Mrs Aquino's executive secretary said Tuesday he will recommend that she allow local officials of towns hosting Clark and Subic to take part in the forthcoming bilateral review.

These officials should be made members of the Philippine panel because they "know what exactly are the problems" caused by the presence of these installations, Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig told reporters.

Ramos Says Security Situation 'Not Very Good'
HK031019 Hong Kong AFP in English 0933 GMT
3 Feb 88

[Text] Manila, Feb 3 (AFP)—Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos admitted Wednesday that the security situation in the Philippines was "not very good" after the country's top military official said that communist forces had grown.

The assessment came one day after Armed Forces chief of staff General Renato de Villa said that the communist New People's Army (NPA) had grown to 25,000 fighters, an increase of 2,000 over military estimates a year ago.

Military intelligence has also estimated that Manila-based urban assassins have grown five-fold to 750 over the past year, press reports said Wednesday.

Mr. Ramos, who retired as Armed Forces chief of staff last month, told reporters the security situation would improve after special local polls end this month, allowing the 160,000-strong military to concentrate on combat duty.

He said that although the security situation was "not very good," the military has been inflicting more casualties on communist guerrillas.

His office said in a monthly report that security forces killed 168 NPA members and nine Moslem separatists while 61 soldiers and 30 civilians died in 196 violent incidents nationwide in January.

A total of 107 government men, 21 NPA rebels and 40 civilians were wounded during the month, while 47 communist guerrillas were captured and another 75 surrendered, according to the report.

Mr. Ramos said the military was ready for any attack by the separatist Moro National Liberation Front, which the military earlier said was planning a major offensive in Mindanao and other southern islands to dramatize its bid for full membership in the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The Alex Boncayao Brigade, the Manila unit of the NPA, was reinforced by some 300 more guerrillas before last month's local elections, an unidentified top official was quoted as saying by newspapers Wednesday.

Military spokesmen here could not officially confirm the reports but said the figures appeared to be accurate.

The NPA's urban guerrillas killed more than 100 policemen, soldiers and civilians in Manila last year but vowed to be more selective after sparking a popular backlash that caused divisions within the political left.

De Villa on Military's Anticommunist Tactics
HK030821 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE
in English 3 Feb 88 pp 1, 6

[Text] Gen. Renato S. de Villa, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, vowed yesterday to destroy the armed might of the underground communist movement "within the time frame given by the President."

President Aquino earlier vowed to crush the communist insurgency before her term expires in 1992.

De Villa said military forces will intensify the hunt for communist New People's Army rebels in both rural and urban centers and "destroy them at all opportunities."

De Villa, however, said the NPA's strength has increased to about 25,000 with some 16,500 firearms.

While the NPA rebels are expected to intensify their terroristic activities, De Villa said, the AFP is ready to meet them head-on and pursue more aggressive and continuous operations."

"We will destroy any NPA unit or element that can be located," De Villa said.

"We have to generate a stronger offensive effort, a higher spirit of the (counter-insurgency) campaign so that the whole system could be applied to disrupt (NPA guerrilla) operations, break their guerrilla fronts and reverse the present situation," De Villa said.

The objective now, De Villa said, "is to destroy the enemy, not just maintain peace and other."

The newly appointed AFP chief of staff, however, said that the greater threat is not the NPA but the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its political fronts which are "working day in the day out, teaching, manipulating, deceiving people to believe in Communism."

"This is the area where arms and firepower cannot be made to bear. Good government, justice, economic opportunities, prompt delivery of governmental services and correct and truthful public information are the only factors that can be made to bear against the onslaught of the CPP," De Villa said.

He added that it is in the political sector where the conflict will be decided.

Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano, PC chief, said the military will have to establish its own mass base in order to counter effectively, the CPP-NPA strategy and effectively carry out the government's counterinsurgency program.

"The primary role (in the counter-insurgency campaign) of the PC and the police," Montano said, "is to separate the NPA's infrastructure from the mass base and isolate it from its traditional sanctuaries."

The focal point of the PC's and the police's participation in the drive against communist rebels, Montano said, "is how much of the mass base support is weaned from the enemy and eventually translated in terms of support and cooperation for the military's peacekeeping efforts."

While the focus of the 1988 counterinsurgency campaign is the tactical aspect designed to take care of the communist movement's armed component, De Villa said, other sectors in the military will take care of the NPA tax collectors, intelligence arms, propagandists and other groups in the rebel movement.

"We will deal with all of them," De Villa said.

The AFP, he said, will see to it that the communist armed insurgency does not expand further and will make sure that the measures taken are "within the frame work of the law and acceptable practice."

New National Maneuver Force Activated
*BK010823 Manila PNA in English 0809 GMT
1 Feb 88*

[Text] Manila, Feb. 1 (PNA/OANA)—The Philippine Army has activated a new 2,300-man National Maneuver Force (MNF) that can be airlifted immediately to any place in the country for combat duty, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos revealed today.

He said the new unit is composed of highly trained Scout Rangers specializing in jungle fighting.

The MNF's capability was proven a few months ago when Bicol was attacked by NPA guerillas, Ramos said.

The Rangers were airlifted to Bicol aboard giant C-130 Hercules planes and were immediately deployed to confront the rebels.

The new defense chief said the Rangers succeeded in taking a number of NPA camps in Bicol in less than a month of fighting.

Ramos said the MNF will be used more often this year for counterinsurgency operations in critical areas of the country.

He also said that the military is now initiating the offensive since President Corazon Aquino gave the go signal for an all-out war against the 23,300-man NPA force.

To beef up the presence of government in the countryside, Ramos said military headquarters has been established deep in mountainous areas of the country.

The plan is to bring the headquarters closer to the frontlines and the soldiers, Ramos said.

Official Urges Creation of Vigilante Groups
*HK030847 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0800 GMT 3 Feb 88*

[Text] Local Governments Secretary Luis Santos praised civilian vigilante groups such as Alsa Masa in Davao City for their roles in fighting communist rebels and restoring peace and order in their areas.

In a meeting held in Tarlac with members of President Aquino's cabinet as well as with newly elected provincial officials, Santos urged the creation of what he called a replica of the Davao experience, where all sectors of society worked together to fight the communists and other bad elements.

Santos said the president showed she was conducive to the move to emulate Davao City when she ordered the establishment of peace and order councils all over the country. He added that although the national peace and order council already existed, consultations should be conducted before the councils are set up in the regions, provinces, cities and municipalities.

NDF Admits, Explains 'Revolutionary Taxes'
*HK291331 Manila MANILA STANDARD
in English 29 Jan 88 p 2*

[By Luz del Rosario]

[Text] The underground National Democratic Front has admitted imposing "revolutionary taxes" on big businesses and landowners operating in rebel areas, and on government-owned corporations and "imperialist agencies" involved in counter-insurgency projects.

In a primer entitled, "Why We Impose Taxes," which came out in a recent issue of the NDF organ LIBERATION, the rebel group also said that small- and medium-scale business entities were not subject to "class enemy tax."

The NDF also said tax assessment on concerned businesses usually amounted to one to two percent of its gross income, only a small portion of their profits.

The rebels' taxation scheme has been one of the more controversial issues being exploited by the military against the rebels.

The taxes it imposes, the manual states, is not protection money, but rebel presence in certain areas assures peace and order, since the rebels defend the area against bandits, criminals, abusive military personnel, and against landgrabbing by foreign businesses and other powerful entities.

These businesses are allowed to continue operations, but are made to realize that they must work for "the genuine interests of the Filipino people," in the long run.

Sometimes, however, criminal gangs take advantage of this scheme to conduct their own extortion, but some of these groups have been caught.

Government Moves To Block MNLF Membership
*HK030629 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0400 GMT 3 Feb 88*

[Text] The government is preparing diplomatic and military action to prevent the Moro National Liberation Front from becoming a member of the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC].

Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee were briefed by senior security officials from the Office of the President. According to reports, the MNLF is to be

considered the government's major enemy from now until the middle of the current year. This followed a threat by MNLF leader Nur Misuari to launch attacks in Mindanao as a show of force in a bid to join the OIC.

Ramos Sees No Signs of Immediate MNLF Attack
*HK030645 Hong Kong AFP in English 0610 GMT
3 Feb 88*

[Text] Manila, Feb 3 (AFP)—Moslem rebel factions have been uniting forces and building up their arsenals for an offensive in the south, newspaper reports said Wednesday citing Philippine intelligence officials.

Rodolfo Canieso, director of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, told a closed-door Senate committee hearing Tuesday that the offensive could be held before a world Islamic conference next month in Jordan, the reports said.

The mainstream Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and two breakaway factions were preparing to mount attacks as part of an MNLF bid for full membership of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Mr Canieso said.

It was the first official report that the factions, which occupy different areas of Mindanao and nearby islands, were re-uniting for a planned offensive.

The MNLF has been spearheading a campaign for a Moslem state in the southern provinces of this largely Roman Catholic archipelago, but has generally observed a ceasefire initiated by President Corazon Aquino in September 1986.

The Philippine Government offered the MNLF autonomy in peace talks last year, but negotiations collapsed after the two sides disagreed on the terms.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos told reporters after a regular cabinet meeting Wednesday that there were no immediate signs of an impending MNLF attack.

"We don't see any signs on the ground but we are checking on reports of infiltration of additional firearms. Right now their initiatives are on the political and diplomatic front," he said.

MNLF Rebels Storm Towns in Lanao del Sur
*HK030229 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company
in English 2300 GMT 2 Feb 88*

[Text] Brigadier General Jesus Hermosa of the Southern Command said some 3,000 Muslim rebels of the Moro National Liberation Front stormed the towns of Pagayawan, Masiu, and Pentar in Lanao del Sur. Hermosa said yesterday [2 February] morning [words indistinct] local election officials to postpone the voting in 120 polling places in the three towns. Voting had been rescheduled for today in four other towns in Lanao del Sur after

candidates and their supporters prevented election officials from entering polling precincts. Seven candidates are running for governor of the largely Muslim province, including three members of rival political families.

Abadilla Takes Oath of Office While Detained
*HK030855 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE
in English 3 Feb 88 p 2*

[Text] Former PC colonel and Ilocos Norte vice governor Rolando Abadilla was able to take his oath of office Monday at the maximum security detention area in Fort Bonifacio through "deceit and misrepresentation" of his lawyers.

This was revealed yesterday by Gen. Renato S. de Villa who said that lawyers Nelson Borja, Oliver Lozano and Danilo Chua went to Fort Bonifacio and were allowed to see Abadilla "under the guise of meeting their client (Abadilla)."

De Villa said he earlier ordered the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] judge advocate general to look into the legal possibility of stopping Abadilla from taking his oath of office as the elected vice governor of Ilocos Norte.

Before the AFP judge advocate general's office could come up with the recommendation, however, De Villa said the three lawyers went to Fort Bonifacio, asked permission and were allowed to see Abadilla.

"As you know, an elected official can take his oath of office before any notary public, and that is what happened," De Villa told reporters.

What was believed to be an ordinary client-lawyer meeting became an oath-taking ceremony, De Villa said.

Abadilla is being held at the maximum security Philippine Army Ground Operations and Tactical Intelligence Battalion compound at Fort Bonifacio.

He is facing illegal possession of firearms, sedition and rebellion charges before various fiscal's offices and military prosecution agencies.

A press release on Abadilla's oath-taking issued by a public relations firm complained that the ceremony was held under very strict security precautions and even media men were not allowed to witness the ceremony.

Last Monday morning, Abadilla's wife Susan appealed to President Aquino for the release of her husband "to enable him to exercise his functions as vice governor of Ilocos Norte and serve his constituents."

Manglapus 'Open' to Vietnam Joining ASEAN
*HK0031021 Hong Kong AFP in English 0930 GMT
3 Feb 88*

[Text] Manila, Feb 3 (AFP)—Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus is open to the possibility of Vietnam joining the non-communist Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the foreign department said Wednesday.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said last month that Hanoi wanted to join ASEAN, which groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Mr. Manglapus was "open to the possibility" of Vietnam joining the non-military but pro-western alliance, Philippine foreign department spokesman Rora Tolentino said.

Various matters would have to be considered in conjunction with other ASEAN members and they could be worked out, but Vietnam's admission "is not an immediate prospect," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Mrs. Tolentino recalled a statement by Rodolfo Severino, the joint spokesman of the ASEAN summit here in December, that before the matter could be considered "Vietnam must first withdraw its military forces from Kampuchea."

The ASEAN, particularly Indonesia and Thailand, have been urging Vietnam to withdraw its military units in Cambodia.

Formation of ASEAN Parliament Discussed
*HK020933 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0800 GMT 2 Feb 88*

[Text] There have been meetings initiated regarding the formation of an ASEAN parliament, which would be like the European Economic Council. This was announced by speaker pro tempore Antonio Cuenco and minority floor leader Rodolfo Albano, who have just arrived from a conference with the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization [IPO] in Kuala Lumpur. Albano said the setting up of an ASEAN parliament would speed up the original goal of ASEAN, which is to push for the development and cooperation of its member nations. He added that this issue was tackled in the just concluded session in Kuala Lumpur and that it would be discussed again in the coming IPO meeting in Manila next year.

Contenders for Ruling Coalition Head Named
*HK010901 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0800 GMT 1 Feb 88*

[Text] One of the eight leading members of the PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party—Strength of the Nation]—Lakas ng Bansa [Lakas—Power of the Nation] may become its new president following the decision of

Congressman Jose Cojuangco to give up the presidency. They are Senator Aquilino Pimentel Jr, Senator Joey Lina, Congressman Victorio Chavez of Misamis Oriental, former labor minister Augusto Sanchez, Governor Vicente Amano of Misamis Oriental, Ernesta Tabias of Bukidnon, Jerry Pares of Negros Oriental, and Mayor Jejomar Binay of Makati.

However, Senator Lina announced that he was not interested in the PDP-Laban presidency as he was content to be a party worker. Pimentel said that he was not interested either, because the presidency is on a 2-year rotation basis and he had already served as president.

Aquino Answers Listeners' Questions

[Slantlines denote passages in English]

HK010548 [Editorial Report] Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog at 1300 GMT on 31 January carries a 50-minute live program entitled "Magtanong sa Pangulo" ["Ask the President"], in which President Corazon Aquino answers listeners' questions, most of them phoned in, while others are relayed by moderator "Orly."

President Aquino begins the program by thanking all those who wished her a happy birthday the previous week. She thanks people for their prayers, which she says she needs to be able to do her job well. She says she was glad to be able to celebrate her birthday among the needy in Sapang Palay, a slum resettlement area, where she has promised have a proper water system installed. The president also calls on all those who won during the recent election to unite and work for the good of the people.

A caller from Aklan asks the president's stand on the counterinsurgency problem, specifically regarding the Alex Boncayao Brigade. The president replies: /"My counterinsurgency program has always been very clear from the start, and that is: We talk first, and if talk does not work, then it is time to fight. This is in keeping with my pledge to exhaust all peaceful efforts to negotiate with them, a pledge that respects law and democracy. However, should we feel that we have no other recourse but to resort to arms, I have stressed that the government will pursue the two-fold policy of achieving peace through economic development and military action. The military will go out and fight with every reassurance that I will stand by them until the end. And at the same time, we will also devote all our efforts to the economic progress that we are seeking."/

A caller from Antique asks what /"positive measures"/ the government is undertaking in the face of current peace-and-order problems, poverty, economic crisis, and political disorder. President Aquino says the government is endeavoring to promote social justice, reduce poverty, and provide economic opportunities for the people and

that this is being done through the National Reconciliation and Development Program, which provided jobs for some 47,000 rebel returnees in 1987. There are also community employment programs that help those in the rural areas, she says, pointing to the Manpower and Development Training Program, which she says helps some 16,000 individuals. She also mentions other livelihood and self-employment assistance programs generated by the government, as well as incentives to the private sector to provide job opportunities.

A Makati resident asks how foreign loans, estimated at \$1 billion, are being utilized by the government and suggests that Aquino do away with incompetent "cronies" and use available technocrats to implement badly needed foreign-funded projects. The president acknowledges that projects have been delayed, but points out that this is a hold-over from the former regime. She says, "We recognize that we need to make substantial improvements in the management of some agencies," and mentions the problem of reorganization during the period of transition between the two administrations. She says planning officers have been appointed and a project-facilitation committee has been created to "unclog bottlenecks identified in project operations at three levels of decision making."

A Capiz resident asks what the government plans to do when the U.S. bases treaty expires. President Aquino says: "Your question is based on the assumption that we are not going to extend the U.S. bases agreement when it expires in 1991. I wish to inform you that the government is keeping its options open on this, and I also want to assure you and all of our people that I will always act with the interests of the Filipinos always first in my mind."

The president also answers questions regarding medical allowances for schoolteachers, what the government is doing to stop the exploitation of Filipino women working abroad, improving communications facilities in the Visayas, illegal logging, a new airport for Antique Province, longevity pay for the national police, providing a fire truck for an Iloilo town, measures to do away with political bickering among local officials, and the levying of a culture tax to assist the country's museums, archives, and various cultural institutions.

Aquino ends by reminding listeners that the newly elected local government officials will take their oath of office and assume their positions on 2 February. She urges them to do their best to serve the nation and says that 2 February is also the 1st anniversary of the new constitution, for which she says Filipinos should "give thanks for the return of all of our democratic processes."

Thailand

Air Force Launches Strikes Against Lao Troops
BK030150 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
3 Feb 88 pp 1, 3

[Text] Royal Thai Air Force [RTAF] F-5 jet fighters yesterday launched their "heaviest" air strikes yet against Laotian troops entrenched on four hill positions in Thai territory.

RTAF Commander-in-Chief ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Woranat Aphichari said the Thai jet fighters carried out 24 sorties yesterday and 10 on Monday.

He said the Laotians fired five SAM-7 missiles at the Thai aircraft, but they all missed their targets.

ACM Woranat described yesterday's air strikes as the "heaviest" since the battle for control of the disputed area at Ban Romklao in Phitsanulok's Chat Trakan district began in mid-December.

"Hill 1428 is not a too-difficult target for the RTAF to demolish," ACM Woranat said.

Thai ground forces have so far retaken most of the border hills seized by Lao intruders. Hill 1428, however, said to be the most advantageous for a defender, has yet to be retaken.

Radio Thailand announced last night that Thai forces yesterday recaptured two of four hills occupied by Laotian forces since mid-November. The troops expected to recapture a third hill last night, the radio said.

Meanwhile, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut said it was necessary for Thailand to resort to "drastic action" against Laos because Vientiane was escalating border tension despite a history of good relations between the two countries.

Gen Chawalit made an inspection trip to Ban Romklao yesterday to observe the situation and visit troops and villagers.

"We thought they (Laos) were our friends all along, but they aren't," he said, charging Laos with bringing a "third country"—presumably Vietnam—into the dispute.

He said proof of the involvement of a third country, which he declined to name, was the massive firepower employed by the Laotian side.

"Thousands of shells were fired each day, and we know for sure they were fired from those who have combat experience," he said.

However, the Lao and foreign forces are interspersed to make the others' presence less noticeable, Gen Chawalit said.

"We are now closing in on three or four Laotian positions. Fighting is going on fiercely. The air support from the RTAF has enabled ground forces to advance effectively," he said.

"We have to adopt an eye-for-an-eye strategy, although we had tried to avoid it from the beginning."

He said both sides have sustained casualties.

Asked how long the fighting would drag on Gen Chawalit said there were only a few "targets" remaining.

"But these few targets are on a hill which is the most advantageous in the area. We need more time to finish our job," he said.

The fighting may continue if the Laotians send in more reinforcements, he said. "If that was the case, we would also beef up our forces. We have to go on fighting," he added.

The Army chief denied Laotian reports of downing a RTAF F-5 jet, saying spreading news of purported Thai losses has long been a tactic used by Laos.

"If the news were true, the RTAF must have lost all of its F-5s," he said.

Asked whether Thailand would consider sealing the border, Gen Chawalit said: "This is a problem concerning humanitarian reasons. It is easy to do that, but I think the Lao people would not like it. Moreover, diplomatic personalities in Vientiane would be in trouble if this measure is taken. However, this depends on the Government to decide."

Field reports yesterday said Lao gunners shelled a border village in Tha Li district of Loei province for the first time. Four artillery shells and two mortar shells smashed into Ban Pakati, Tambon Nahi, forcing villagers to flee. Several villagers were evacuated to a temple for temporary refuge.

Laotian forces also shelled Ban Romklao, Ban Muang Phrae and Ban Na Charoen in Na Haew district of Loei yesterday. Some villagers—mostly women and children—were evacuated from Ban Muang Phrae and the remainder were instructed by authorities to erect bunkers near houses.

The reports said about 20 Laotian troops clashed with Thai soldiers near an outpost on Hill 1370 in Ban Romklao for about two hours. No further details were available.

In Bangkok, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said yesterday there has been no progress in diplomatic efforts to resolve the border dispute.

"There were only words from Laos that they wanted talks, but we had informed them that there is nothing to talk about since the area under dispute is in Thai territory," said ACM Sitthi, who added he was still willing to meet with his Laotian counterpart, Phoun Sipaseut, "if he wishes to come here for talks."

Lao Shells Reportedly Hit Uttaradit

*BK030839 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai
3 Feb 88 p 20*

[Excerpts] According to our correspondent in Uttaradit Province, at 1220 on 2 February two artillery shells fired from Laos struck the strategic Nam Pat-Huai Mun Road about 600 meters from Na Phakhat village, Tambon Nam Phai, Nam Pat District. The shells dug large holes in the road and damaged a home about 200 meters away. The owner of the home, Tuan Khamat, 48, suffered a broken back. [passage omitted]

At 1400 on the same day, one Lao artillery round struck approximately 100 meters from Ban Huai Dua [in Uttaradit Province], damaging the community health office and several residences. [passage omitted]

Casualty Claims Denied

*BK030655 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 3 Feb 88*

[Text] Thai forces were able to seize several hills near Hill 1428 in the fighting at Ban Romklao, Chat Trakan District, Phitsanulok Province. The enemy's reports are nothing more than propaganda. A public relations official in Phitsanulok, Thongchai Tangcharoenkun, reported at about noon today:

[Begin recording] [Thongchai] Our brave soldiers are advancing toward enemy positions and were able to capture several hills near Hill 1428. Enemy artillery shells were fired continuously onto our territory and Thai artillery shells were returned rapidly. The Thai soldiers' morale is very good at present and they are determined to drive the enemy forces out of Thai territory.

Enemy claims that Thai forces suffered heavy casualties are rejected by 3d Army Region Commander Lieutenant General Siri Thiwaphan:

[Siri] I wish to inform all beloved Thai people that communist countries are adept at deception and propaganda. None of our planes were downed and our casualties were not as heavy as claimed. It is certain that there will be casualties in battle, but I wish to confirm that Lao casualties run much higher than ours—by about five to two. This is a fact.

Some people harboring ill will toward the country recently telephoned schools and government offices to claim that our soldiers suffered heavy casualties and that we lost such and such positions. I appeal for everyone's cooperation in not being deceived by such claims. If you want to know the truth, you can ask the 3d Army Region. [end recording]

Ministry Refutes Illegal Logging Charge

*BK030402 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English
1500 GMT 2 Feb 88*

["Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs"—date not given]

[Text] Following the Vientiane radio broadcast on 1 February 1988 accusing the Thai foreign minister and the commander of the 3d Army Region of having profited from illegal logging in the vicinity of Ban Romklao, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs categorically denies this accusation as totally unfounded. Such accusation is an outright act of shameless slandering and also reflects the fact that some of Lao leaders are at their wits' end and no longer capable of using logics and facts for argument to convince the world that the area Laos has intruded is its own. They have, therefore, resorted to this ludicrous trick to disinform the international community. It also reflects Laos' total lack of sincerity in its proposed negotiation to find a solution to the problem.

Foreign Ministry Delineates Thai-Lao Border

*BK021554 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1300 GMT 2 Feb 88*

["Foreign Ministry's Clarification on the Thai-Lao Border Situation in Ban Romklao," given by Sarot Chawanawirat, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department—in Thai with English subtitles; texted from the English]

[Text] Good evening: You may be well aware of the incident at Ban Romklao, Phitsanulok Province where Lao troops have violated our sovereignty and occupied parts of the said area despite the clear evidences that the area belongs to Thailand. While disregarding repeated Thai warnings, the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman and its embassies in Thailand, UN and in other countries still claim before diplomatic corps and international press that the said area belongs to Laos. To clarify the matter, the Thai Government has entrusted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to elucidate these facts once more to reassure the public that the area claimed by Laos is entirely within the Thai territory. Thailand is therefore fully entitled to taking any actions to protect her sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Since all evidences clearly point out to the fact that the area is in the Thai territory. First, let us locate on this map where the Lao incursion is. It has taken place around Phitsanulok and Loei Provinces. Next, let us look at the map magnified from official Thai aerial

photography map to illustrate the Thai-Lao boundary, marked here in red. Ban Romklao is here, 8 km from the border. This is Hill 1428, lying 2 km within the Thai territory, still occupied by the Lao troops. This part of the Thai-Lao boundary follows Nam Huang River, a branch of the Mekong. At this point, it branches off into two: one goes up along Nam Huang Nga to its source at Phu Khao Mieng, the other along a small tributary of Nam Huang Pa Man to its source at Phu Soi Dao. This is the point of contention due to Lao distortion that the Thai-Lao boundary follows Nam Huang Pa Man to Phu Soi Dao, which extends over 80 square km into the Thai territory.

I have stated that Laos distorted the fact because the Thai Government have in their possession several evidences indicating that the said area is in Thai territory. Permit me to present three clear, important, nonunilateral evidences as follows:

First, the 1907 Franco-Thai Treaty. You may recall that Laos was then under French rule. After its independence, Laos succeeded the rights and responsibilities stipulated by that treaty. The said treaty maintains that as for Luang Prabang, the boundary detaches from the Mekong, in the south, at the mouth of the Nam Huang and follows the Thalweg of that river until its source, which is situated at Phu Khao Mieng. From there, the boundary follows along the line of the watershed between the Mekong and the Menam and terminates at the point on the Mekong called Keng Pha Dai in conformity with the boundary line adopted by the preceding demarcation commission on 16 January 1906.

Let me now explain in simple terms once again. The treaty clearly stipulates that the boundary line follows Nam Huang upward to its source at Phu Khao Mieng, after which the watershed will determine the boundary line to the area called Keng Pha Dai. May I refer back to Lao claim that the Phu Soi Dao is the source of Nam Huang which is unacceptable to us due to the following reasons.

1. The 1907 treaty clearly states that the source of Nam Huang marking the boundary line is at Phu Khao Mieng without any mention of Phu Soi Dao.
2. From Phu Soi Dao which Laos claims to be the source of Nam Huang, there remain 8 km of watershed before reaching Phu Khao Mieng. This claim clearly contradicts the treaty since it is stated that the watershed will determine the boundary line from Phu Khao Mieng onwards.

The second evidence is the map done in accordance with the 1907 treaty by the Franco-Siamese boundary commission, published in France. The black crosses on this map clearly indicate the boundary line which follows Nam Huang and Nam Huang Nga until the latter reaches its source at Phu Khao Mieng.

Important evidence is the map produced by the Soviet Union in 1987 and is currently in use in Laos. The configuration of the area on this map matches that of the French. On this map there appears the word Nam Huang Nga that is used as boundary line.

All evidences presented today are authentic. So far they have been fully accepted without any condition by Laos. Therefore, the Lao military occupation in the vicinity of Ban Romklao is a deliberate violation of Thailand's sovereignty. The Thai Government demands that the Lao troops be totally withdrawn from Ban Romklao immediately and unconditionally. We are prepared to hold talks with Laos to find a peaceful solution. Otherwise, the Thai Government reserve that it is their legitimate right to drive back by force the Lao intruders from the Thai territory to safeguard our sovereignty and territorial integrity. Thank you.

Defense Chief Assesses Impact of U.S. Aid Cut
BK030148 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
3 Feb 88 p 4

[Text] The U.S. military aid cut this year will have a small impact on Thailand, Defence Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Phaniang Kantarat said yesterday.

"We hoped to receive more aid from the U.S. However, the cut will prompt us to help ourselves," he said.

ACM Phaniang admitted the aid cut would affect Thailand's arms purchasing programme, but the shortfall was expected to be made up for by governmental budget changes.

He said U.S officials had informed Thailand in advance of the pending military aid cut.

Thailand will receive \$20 million in direct grant aid this year, compared to \$50 million last year.

Although Thailand did not receive any Foreign Military Sales (FMS) credit last year, it will receive \$23.50 million this year.

For International Military Education and Training (IMET), Thailand will receive \$2.15 million, while the Economic Support Fund (ESF) will remain at \$5 million.

ACM Phaniang said he had yet to be briefed in detail by the U.S. Embassy.

Sitthi Wants USSR Role in Cambodian Solution
BK030158 Bangkok THE NATION in English
3 Feb 88 p 5

[Text] Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila yesterday called on the Soviet Union to play a more active role in solving the Kampuchean problem.

Sitthi told reporters that he asked Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmata to convey the message to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. Mokhtar left for Moscow last night after a one-day stopover here.

Sarot Chawanawirat, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, said the two foreign ministers discussed the resignation of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and other developments related to Kampuchea.

ASEAN will continue to support Sihanouk because he remains the key person who can help solve the Kampuchean problem, Sarot said.

Both sides also agreed that China should use its influence to keep the three-party resistance forces united in fighting the Vietnamese, the spokesman said.

Sihanouk resigned unexpectedly as president of the coalition last week, citing conflicts with Son Sann, the leader of Khmer People's National Liberation Front who was against Sihanouk's talks with Premier Hun Sen of Vietnam-backed Kampuchea.

Sitthi and Mokhtar also exchanged views on the outcome of the meeting between Sihanouk and Chinese Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang on Monday.

Sihanouk To Visit; Rannarit Not in CGDK
BK030212 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
3 Feb 88; pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman Sarot Chawanawirat told reporters that Foreign Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila yesterday briefed visiting Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmata on Sihanouk's decision.

Mr Mokhtar, who stopped over in Bangkok en route to Geneva and Moscow, met over lunch yesterday with ACM Sitthi to discuss the latest development in the Kampuchean issue. [passage omitted]

The Foreign Ministry spokesman, Mr Sarot, said Sihanouk was scheduled to visit Thailand in May and "the picture is expected to be clearer by then".

He said that both ACM Sitthi and the Indonesian Foreign Minister agreed yesterday that Sihanouk was still the most important figure in seeking a settlement to the Kampuchean conflict.

The two ministers also agreed that ASEAN should continue in its policy of seeking a political solution to the problem.

Sihanouk's son Prince Rannarit has refused to represent his father in the resistance coalition.

Rannarit wrote in a telegram to Beijing last Saturday, "having refused from the beginning to take part in the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, please allow, dear father, that I continue to stay outside of the coalition government."

Editorial Assesses Sihanouk Resignation
BK021144 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
2 Feb 88 p 8

[Editorial: "What Will ASEAN Do?"]

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk has threatened several times to resign as president of the CGDK when he has been disturbed by Khmer Rouge actions. But, according to the 30 January announcement by the prince's secretary, the prince's patience has run out and he has decided to resign.

Prince Sihanouk's resignation took place less than a year after he announced he would take a 1-year leave of absence from his presidential post beginning on 30 May 1987, indicating that something may have provoked him to resign.

The prince cited two reasons for taking leave of his post—Khmer Rouge attacks on Cambodian forces loyal to him, and his desire to independently seek settlement of the Cambodian problem.

In any event, it is possible that the prince may have sensed some signals, however vague, from the Phnom Penh regime. However, after two rounds of talks with Phnom Penh Foreign Minister Hun Sen, the prince became confident and decided to leave the CGDK. This shows he probably realized that he could better solve the Cambodian problem on his own than within the framework of the CGDK.

It is evident that in the 6 years since establishment of the CGDK, the three-faction coalition has been loose and aimed at gaining diplomatic superiority over the Phnom Penh government, seeing that the CGDK is internationally recognized as the legitimate Cambodian government, while the Phnom Penh government is seen as a Vietnamese puppet. But, militarily speaking, there is no way the CGDK can have any advantage over the rival government. The Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers hold most of the country and the major cities. Any diplomatic advantage the CGDK might gain is meaningless if Vietnam refuses to give in to international community demands and withdraw its troops.

This situation forces ASEAN to try everything possible, including encouraging all Cambodian factions to negotiate settlement of their problems among themselves, which failed. For this reason, Prince Sihanouk lost his patience and began to seek a new solution by removing

himself from the framework ASEAN set for him. Because the prince is recognized by the international community, his resignation will weaken the status of the CGDK.

This abrupt change will severely shock ASEAN and force it to readjust, but any readjustment will have to wait until Prince Sihanouk decides what to do. If the prince decides to accept a presidency in the Phnom Penh government, ASEAN will definitely have to make a major readjustment of its posture on the Cambodian problem.

Government Rejects U.S. Refugee Camp Request
BK030232 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
3 Feb 88 p 3

[Excerpt] The Interior Ministry yesterday rejected a US request that Thailand open a new transit camp for Vietnamese refugees because the camp at Phanat Nikhom District in Chon Buri was overcrowded.

Thailand is trying to reduce its number of refugee-holding centres, an official said.

Somphon Klinphongsas, the Interior Ministry deputy permanent secretary for security affairs, said the request was conveyed to him yesterday by US charge d'affaires Joe Winder and another high-level US official, Bruce Beardsley.

The Americans want Thailand to open Si Khiew camp in Nakhon Ratchasima or Mai Rut camp in Chanthaburi as a second transit camp for Vietnamese refugees awaiting resettlement in third countries.

Mr Somphon said they offered to provide financial and other necessary support for the opening of the camp.

"I turned down the request because the Government's policy is to reduce the number of refugee-holding centres. We don't want our country to be regarded as the country of first acceptance because, in fact, the refugees could remain unattended to for 10 or even 20 years," he said.

"My suggestion was that since Vietnam and Laos have no policy to stop their people from leaving the countries, they should allow their peoples out through the Orderly Departure Programme (ODP)."

Mr Somphon said the two Americans—who he said frequently travel to Vietnam—agreed to talk to Hanoi and Vientiane about the matter.

He said if Vietnamese refugees have relatives in a third country, they should submit a request to depart through the ODP and await a reply. "That's the way they should do it. They don't need to take a risk by travelling by sea to Thailand," he said.

"The Americans said they feared there would not be enough aircraft to bring the Vietnamese out through the ODP. I said Thailand is willing to provide our Thai International Airways aircraft to provide transport," Mr Somphon said.

He complained that only one out of every 10 Vietnamese arrivals is admitted to a third country and the rest is left in Thailand's care.

"How can we be sure that they would not conduct terrorist activities? We have to keep our security well-safeguarded," he said. [passage omitted]

300 Boat People Sent Back

BK030242 Bangkok *BANGKOK POST* in English
3 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] Trat—About 300 boat people who arrived illegally here were forced out to sea yesterday as part of the Government crackdown on illegal entry.

The forced repatriation was supervised by Col Seri Temiyawet, deputy commander of Zone Two Police and head of a task force set up to stop the smuggling of refugees and goods.

An informed source said the special task will today force out to sea another 250 boat people scattered on the beaches of this coastal province.

The refugees were brought in by smuggling racketeers a few days ago.

An informed source said the refugees are being held by local authorities at Tambon Ko Kut and will be repatriated to Ko Kong, where they came from.

The source said that Col Seri yesterday supervised the forced repatriation of the 300 boat people from Khlong Yai District.

Two boatloads of more than 100 refugees who were making their way to the beach were forced to return to sea. The rest were picked up from beaches, put on their boats and forced out.

The source said that Col Seri also ordered the mouth of the Trat River in Muang District closed to stop smuggling.

The river mouth was said to be an unloading point for contraband.

The Crime Suppression Division [CSD] has assigned four special units to keep a close watch on refugee smuggling in the east centred in Trat, CSD Commander Maj Gen Rungrot Yamakakun said yesterday.

The units, already working in the east to suppress the smuggling of arms and war weapons, were also assigned to investigate the shooting death two years ago of Surachet Suphathit, Laem Ngor District's assistant chief officer.

30 Vietnamese Arrested

BK030258 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
3 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] Aranyaprathet—Police Monday arrested 31 Vietnamese people near a refugee centre here and charged them with illegal entry into Thailand, local officials said.

Villagers spotted the Vietnamese—five men, six women, six girls and 14 boys—near Ban Thai Samat north of his border town, they said.

The illegal immigrants told police that they paid about 5,000 baht each to smugglers for taking them from South Vietnam to Thailand through Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese said they stayed about 10 nights in the Kampuchean capital of Phnom Penh before proceeding to Si Sophon and the Thai border.

Police are hunting for smuggling racketeers who have escorted many Vietnamese refugees across the Thai-Kampuchean border into Thai territory.

Chinese NPC Delegation Arrives in Bangkok
BK301001 Bangkok *ZHONG HUA RIBAO* in Thai
30 Jan 88 p 4

[Text] Chen Pixian, vice chairman of the Chinese National People's Congress [NPC] Standing Committee, and his 18-member delegation arrived in Bangkok yesterday for a friendly visit as guests of the Thai National Assembly.

Upon its arrival at Don Muang Airport at 1540, the Chinese delegation was warmly welcomed by Parliament President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin. In his welcoming speech the parliament president expressed hope that the NPC delegation's visit will further strengthen the friendly relations between Thailand and China.

The NPC delegation will be in Thailand until 6 February. During this visit the delegation will have an audience with the king, and will pay courtesy calls on Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, Parliament President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin and House speaker Chuan Likphai to discuss matters of mutual concern, especially the expansion of economic and trade cooperation. The delegation will also visit the Grand Palace and other famous places in Thailand.

Vietnam

Article on NATO Aid To Modernize ASEAN Armies
BK021545 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0015 GMT 2 Feb 87

[Unattributed "article on the U.S. and NATO attempts to turn ASEAN into a military bloc"]

[Text] There has been public concern in the region over U.S. and NATO attempts to turn ASEAN into a military bloc in order to create tension and confrontation. They are intensifying their supply of military equipment to various ASEAN countries and placing on the shoulder of these countries a mandate that the United States and the West cannot fulfill, while using ASEAN as a foothold to strengthen their military presence in the region and serve their reactionary global strategy.

The Filipino paper (TODAY'S NEWS), in a recent issue, held that this trend will continue to increase in the next 10 years. By 1990, U.S. arms sales will reach \$6 billion. This figure will jump to \$10 billion in 10 years time.

A special seminar was held in Bangkok, Thailand, in November 1986 on the modernization of the armed forces of ASEAN countries; many Western countries participated. Although already playing a main role in supplying means and money to modernize the armed forces of ASEAN countries, the United States has also exercised pressure on NATO allies to take part in this work.

The FRG, Italy, and the Netherlands Holland sell arms and naval technology while France sells helicopters. Italy sells infantry weapons while Britain and Belgium sell tanks. In addition to their arms sales and the sending of their experts for training purposes, the United States and NATO have also provided ASEAN with machinery and arms manufacturing industries and have set up and modernized various military technical service installations. The United States and Italy have introduced the aircraft industry into Singapore and Malaysia in order to manufacture spare parts and to assemble, repair, and provide services to U.S. military aircraft operating in the western Pacific region.

The FRG, French, and Spanish civil aviation corporations manufacture helicopters and transport aircraft in Indonesia while the FRG, Britain, and Italy have cooperated in expanding and modernizing various naval bases in Singapore and Thailand. As to the purpose of these bases, the press has revealed that U.S. warships were outfitted there before departing to participate in the Malvinas war of 1982. [as heard]

Among the ASEAN countries, Thailand has been chosen to play a vanguard role. Facts show that the United States has turned Thailand into a staging base for the genocidal Pol Pot clique and has cast the Thai Armed Forces in the role of a drill sergeant to confront the

Indochinese countries. In 1979, U.S. military aid to Thailand was \$32.4 million. This figure has jumped to \$102.3 million. In general, since 1979, U.S. military aid to Thailand, including sales, loans, and grants, have been higher than the total for the previous 30 years.

In 1985, the United States and Thailand signed a special military aid agreement whereby the Pentagon is authorized to use Thai military installations. Of late, the United States has reached an agreement with Thailand to set up on Thai soil various arms depots reserved for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force.

It is further reported by the the Japanese paper ASAHI SHIMBUN that the United States and Thailand have also discussed the possibility of reinstalling U.S. military bases in Thailand.

Daily Praises Hun Sen-Sihanouk Meeting
BK021419 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
24 Jan 88 p 4

[Unattributed Commentary: "A New Step in the Dialogue on the Cambodia Issue"]

[Text] The second round of talks between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk in Paris has concluded amidst deep concern in broad sections of public opinion. At the talks, based on the four-point joint communique of 4 December 1987, the two sides exchanged views on political, military, and international issues relating to a settlement of the Cambodia issue. They presented their positions regarding a timetable for the Vietnamese Army volunteers' withdrawal from Cambodia, the dismantling of the armed forces of the Pol Pot clique, the cessation of foreign interference in Cambodia, and the establishment of a coalition government with the participation of all parties concerned in Cambodia.

Both sides expressed a unanimity of views on Cambodia's independence, neutrality, and nonalignment and agreed that Cambodia's future political system must be decided by the Cambodian people themselves and that the implementation of the agreements arrived at must be placed under international supervision.

Both sides agreed to continue to exchange views on these issues and to hold their third meeting in Pyongyang in April 1988, their fourth meeting in Paris late this year, and their fifth meeting in New Delhi.

The second round of talks between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk demonstrates a new step in the trend toward dialogue aimed at a peaceful resolution of the Cambodian and Southeast Asian issues. The initial results of the talks have testified to the determination and efforts of both sides' to achieve national reconciliation, stop the bloodshed, and move toward the realization of an independent, neutral, progressive, and prosperous Cambodia, thus contributing to peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world. It

proves that the correct and practical way of solving the Cambodia problem is to continue the dialogue in the quest for a fair political solution conforming to the common trend in the region and the world. It also proves that the Cambodia issue must be resolved by the Cambodian people themselves.

Once again, the world public has seen the flexible and good will attitude of the PRK. At the talks, Chairman Hun Sen suggested a concrete timetable for the simultaneous withdrawal of the Vietnamese Army volunteers, the dismantling of the armed forces of the Pol Pot clique, and the cessation of foreign interference in Cambodia. He also made concrete proposals for the establishment of a coalition government through general elections with the participation of all political parties and under international supervision. These are sound proposals based on the policy of national reconciliation and the five-point stance of the PRK for a political solution to the Cambodia issue which has already won high appreciation from broad sections of public opinion. The facts show that to build a peaceful, independent, sovereign, democratic, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia as anticipated in the 4 December 1987 4-point joint communique, it is necessary to discard the Pol Pot chieftains and dismantle their armed forces so as to eliminate, once and for all, the threat of the restoration of the genocidal regime which has caused so much suffering and death to the Cambodian people and threatened peace and stability in the region.

Together with peace-loving forces in Southeast Asia and the world, the Vietnamese Government and people fully support the correct and well-intentioned stance of the PRK. We acclaim both sides' decision to continue the talks. As a result of efforts on the part of those forces who prefer confrontation to dialogue, many difficult and complicated problems still lie ahead. Nevertheless, we are firmly convinced that with the efforts and good will of both sides, and the approval and support of the people of the world, the coming talks between the PRK and Prince Sihanouk will bring even more heartening results, thus contributing to a settlement of the Cambodia issue in the interest of a durable peace in that suffering country and of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world.

Radio Carries Commentary

*OW021406 Hanoi International Service in Mandarin
1130 GMT 1 Feb 88*

[Station commentary]

[Text] World opinion has paid keen attention to, and evaluated highly, the outcome of the meeting between Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and Prince Sihanouk to seek a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. In this connection, our station commentator has the following to say:

At a news conference after his second round of talks with Prince Sihanouk, Chairman Hun Sen gleefully told reporters that the meeting was held in a fraternal and friendly atmosphere, and that great progress was achieved during the meeting. Prince Ranarith, Prince Sihanouk's representative, said that both sides have moved closer to peace and that the atmosphere of the talks was pleasant and warm. The French press shared the consensus that progress was made toward solving the Cambodian problem during the talks. LE FIGARO commented on 22 January: The meeting showed that the two sides have moved closer in their stands. U.S. Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Gaston Sigur said at a press conference in Bangkok that it was a useful meeting, and hoped that the talks will contribute more to solving the Cambodian problem effectively. A Thai professor, Chatkuwong, said in a statement in Bangkok that the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting is a significant turning point in the peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem. He suggested that the Thai Government adopt a policy of relaxation.

The above opinions clearly indicate that the meeting between chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk marks a step toward achieving national reconciliation and seeking a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. In their second round of talks, the two sides began discussions on some concrete matters and showed identical views concerning the future political system of Cambodia, the principles of independence, neutrality, and nonalignment, and questions regarding international guarantees and supervision. They agreed to continue to exchange views in their third, fourth, and fifth rounds of talks.

However, world opinion has also noticed that the above outcome is only preliminary and that the struggle to solve the Cambodian problem will remain a difficult and complex one. This is because some forces have to date advocated confrontation and opposed dialogue in a vain attempt to sustain the Pol Pot genocidal system. However, the reality of Cambodia shows that the most pressing task in the establishment of a peaceful, independent, sovereign, democratic, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia is, as pointed out in the 4-point communique published at the end of the meeting between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk last year, to eliminate Pol Pot and his ilk and dismantle their armed forces. Only by so doing will it be possible to stop the frightening genocidal system that brought calamities to the Cambodian people, and eliminate the danger that the genocidal system will be restored and again threaten peace in Indochina and Southeast Asia.

VNA Cites Lao Spokesman on Border Dispute

*BK030950 Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT
3 Feb 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 3—A spokesman of the Lao Foreign Ministry had denounced the Thai Government for its unwillingness to settle the border dispute through negotiations. At a press conference in Vientiane on February 1st, he said:

"Following the statement issued on January 25, 1988 by the Lao Government on its readiness to send a delegation to Bangkok or to receive Thai delegation to Vientiane to discuss and settle the present border dispute, the Thai charge d'affaires on January 28 informed the Lao Foreign Ministry that the Thai side would be pleased to receive a Lao delegation in Bangkok.

"However, on January 29, the Minister Counsellor of the Thai Embassy called on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and informed it that there would be no negotiation if Lao soldiers should not withdraw from the disputed area.

"At the same time, within 3 days from the 27th to the 29th of January the Thai authorities twice organized large protest demonstrations in front of the Lao Embassy in Bangkok in contravention of the Vienna Convention on the immunity and privileges of the diplomatic corps.

"In the meantime, the military situation at Taseng Nabo Noi in Boten District of Laos has evolved in a disquieting manner. On January 27 Thai troops launched a large-scale and most violent artillery shelling and jet-fighter raids against the Lao positions. On January 30, Thai aircraft penetrated 30 kilometers into Lao territory."

The spokesman stressed :

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the LPDR strongly condemns the new and large military attacks ordered by the Thai rightists against Laos' territory at Taseng Nabo Noi and demands that the Thai side stop these aggressive acts immediately since they are undermining the efforts of the Lao Government to settle the dispute through negotiations."

Japan, ROK, Others Seek Economic Ties
SK030153 Seoul YONHAP in English
0138 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Bangkok, Feb. 3 (YONHAP)—Japan, South Korea and some other non-socialist countries in the Asia-Pacific region are actively seeking to promote joint ventures between private business firms or other types of unofficial-level economic relations with Vietnam, Vietnam watchers here said Wednesday.

The Vietnam watchers said Vietnam's Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City are nowadays visited more frequently than ever before by increasing number of businessmen from Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong and Indonesia. Japan, Vietnam's largest trade partner outside the socialist bloc, has already set up and put into operation an automobile assembly plant in Ho Chi Minh City (former Saigon), they said.

As for South Korea, three or four business groups including Samsung and Hanjin have shown interests in advancing their business activities to Vietnam. the

sources disclosed a delegation of South Korean businessmen is scheduled to visit Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City in the near future to assess prospects for investment and trade between the two countries.

The non-socialist bloc entrepreneurs visits to Vietnam started to increase noticeably after Vietnamese Government promulgated a new foreigners' investment law at the end of last year in a bid to induce more foreign investments.

The Vietnam watchers also said similar gesture has been offered even by Thailand, Vietnam's neighboring country which has long been opposed to economic cooperation with Vietnam in protest against Hanoi's invasion of Kampuchea.

A private Thai fishery firm, Sirichai, has signed a contract with a Vietnamese marine products exporting corporation to establish a joint-venture firm last month. In accordance with an agreement with its Vietnamese partner, Sirichai is planning to dispatch seven trawlers to waters off Vietnamese coast by the end of this month to start a joint fishing operation.

Sources said Sirichai was the first case of private-level joint venture agreed upon between the two countries since South Vietnam's communization of 1975.

Thailand's flag-carrier, Thai International (Thai), meanwhile, is to officially open direct passenger flight route between Bangkok and Ho Chi Minh City on Friday (Feb. 5). So far, Air France has been the sole airliner from non-socialist bloc having passenger service line between the two cities.

Australia began joint fishing operation with Vietnam last month after concluding an agreement to set up a joint-venture in fishery field.

Vo Chi Cong Visits An Giang Province
BK021045 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
22 Jan 88, pp 1,4

[VNA Report]

[Text] Comrade Vo Chi Cong, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau member and chairman of the Council of State, recently visited and worked in An Giang Province.

Comrades Nguyen Van Hon, party Central Committee and member of the provincial party committee secretary; Tran The Loc, provincial party committee deputy secretary and chairman of the provincial people's committee; and large numbers of comrade members of the An Giang provincial party committee reported to Chairman Vo Chi Cong on the achievements of the people in An Giang Province during the past several years in persevering to overcome their difficulties.

Agriculture is the primary strength of An Giang Province. The total cultivated area in 1987 reached 306,000 hectares, an increase of 1.6% over that of 1986. This includes 261,000 hectares of rice, overfulfilling the plan norm by 2.4% and an increase of 0.9% over the preceding year's area. The summer-fall crop area increased by 9,350 hectares and the 10th-month crop area increased by 8,949 hectares. The areas of some of the main crops also increased such as soybean by 1,200 hectares (19.2%), sugarcane by 1,500 hectares (double), jute by 230 hectares (35%), and watermelon by 600 hectares (81.5%). The winter-spring crop yield was the highest, averaging 5.6 tonnes per hectare. In 1987, the province strived to achieve 900,000 tonnes of grain and procured 243,000 tonnes. The average per capita grain quota was 500 kg. The issuance of 44,700 tonnes of fertilizer (27,500 tonnes from the central government) to peasants by the provincial authorities, together with the implementation of many stimulative policies—such as stabilizing the peasants' right to land use and liberating production forces—have enthused and enabled peasants to engage in production with their minds at ease.

In the renewal spirit of the sixth Party Congress resolution, the An Giang provincial authorities have reconsidered and controlled the whole situation of land use and the quality of agricultural production collectives and cooperatives, and have boldly remedied shortcomings. They have replaced 30% of the old management staff, streamlined management personnel, reduced irrational expenses, kept open financial accounts, adjusted the allocation of more than 6,000 hectares of land to tens of thousands of families having surplus labor, allowed peasants to reclaim virgin land deep in the quadrangular Long Xuyen area, and created jobs for more than 3,000 people including the Khmer people. They have also rationally readjusted the previously set prices of agricultural machinery. Extra payment is required for machinery which was underpriced; and the difference returned for machinery which was overpriced. Because of these measures, machinery that was out of order for a long time has been repaired, thus increasing the working capability.

Chairman Vo Chi Cong listened to the secretaries and chairmen of two cooperatives of Long Dien A (Chau Doc) and My Hoa Hung Villages (of Long Xuyen city) who reported specifically on the situation of agricultural production together with advantages, difficulties, and the aspirations of cooperative members. He visited a fish raising farm in a river—this mode of fish raising is unique to An Giang—and the newly commissioned Long Xuyen port.

Chairman Vo Chi Cong commended the cadres and people of An Giang Province for having creatively and satisfactorily developed production and in particular for achieving the high yield of 5.6 tonnes per hectare, thus increasing the production of grain rapidly. He suggested that attention be paid to considering the question of

ownership by cooperatives and to distinguishing collectivization from cooperativization. Small machinery and cattle can be better placed under the managerial control of cooperative members' families but must be used under common guidance. For the past few years, we have been somewhat hasty, impatient, objective, and voluntaristic in our transformation of agriculture, thus impeding the development of production and production forces. The sixth Party Congress resolution specified: Socialist transformation must be conducted regularly throughout the period of transition.

As regards policies toward peasants, there are three issues: State investment in water conservancy and loans, the supply of agricultural materials, and, most importantly, the policy of prices. Prices must be in line with the value and purchasing power of money with due consideration made of the supply-demand relationship. In buying agricultural products, the state must give peasants 30-40% of profits—particularly 40% of profits from rice. The province can sell its self-procured materials to peasants at commercial prices as agreed upon by peasants in order to get money and buy agricultural products from peasants.

With respect to the family economy, the provincial authorities have paid attention to the allocation of additional land to peasants depending on availability in An Giang Province. Hilly and mountainous land may be loaned to peasants for growing indigo trees and afforestation without any limits to area and time. This can be said "for long-term investment". The state will protect the products and the right to inherit from labor merits in order to set peasants' mind at ease when they engage in production. This is beneficial both to the country and their families.

As regards distribution and circulation, the provincial authorities have established the one-price system, reduced price subsidies, and overcome many negative aspects. They have advocated the policy of getting loans with a high interest rate of 10%, thereby getting more assets since we are short of capital. In cost-accounting, all "input" and "output" data have been balanced, thus balancing money and goods, an objective that cannot be accomplished by many localities. If this mode of working is adopted by surrounding provinces, general stability will be restored as a result of the mutual relations.

The Council of State chairman stressed that product contracts in agricultural production collectives and cooperatives should be improved in order to increase the rates of income of production collective and cooperative members by 50% over the contracted production volume, and to create motivation for developing the manufacture of goods.

On the occasion of this temporary duty trip to An Giang, the native place of late President Ton Duc Thang, Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong visited Uncle Ton's former house where the latter spent his boyhood.

This house is being repaired and a new 300-square-meter souvenir house of steel-reinforced concrete and tiled roof is also being built in preparation for the anniversary of Uncle Ton's 100th birthday this August.

NHAN DAN Comments on Major January News Items

Editorial Marks PRK National Day
BK221403 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
7 Jan 88 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Brilliant Achievements of the Fraternal Cambodian People"]

[Text] The 7th of January 1979 is remembered as a brilliant day in the developing history of the fraternal Cambodian nation. On this day 9 years ago, the heroic Cambodian people; with sincere, prompt, and effective assistance provided by the Vietnamese Army and people, rose up to overthrow the Pol Pot genocidal regime and establish the PRK. This great victory has ushered in a new era for the Cambodian people, an era of genuine mastery of their destiny and of independence and freedom.

Over the past 9 years, the Cambodian people have scored marvelous progress in their revival. Various echelons of the administration from central to the grass-roots levels have been consistently consolidated, while revolutionary achievements have been firmly protected. Despite natural calamities and the enemy's sabotage, the national economy has been gradually restored with remarkable achievements. To date, the cultivated acreage of the nation has reached approximately 2 million hectares. Although agricultural production has not been equal to the level of the prewar years, grain per capita is 300 kg. More than 60 factories and enterprises and thousands of handicraft establishments have been restored. They have produced essential consumer goods to meet the people's demands.

Education, public health, and cultural fields have also scored remarkable achievements. The number of general school students has reached 1.8 million, exceeding the highest figure recorded during the old regime. On the political front, the 1984-85 dry-season's resounding victory has caused heavy losses to the enemy's strategic scheme of reversing the situation in Cambodia. The fact that Vietnam has partially withdrawn its volunteer troops from Cambodia annually, and will complete its troop withdrawal by 1990, indicates that the Cambodian situation is becoming stabilized.

Pursuing a foreign policy of peace, friendship, and cooperation, the PRK's prestige has been increasingly enhanced in the international arena. The PRK, SRV, and LPDR have repeatedly proposed peace initiatives to solve regional problems. These initiatives have received sympathy and support from a large segment of the progressive world's public.

Stemming from the high sense of responsibility toward the nation's destiny and to satisfy the people's earnest aspirations, the PRK gradually promulgated the policy on national reconciliation on 27 August 1987 and the five-point political solution for the Cambodian issue on 8 October 1987 with the intention of breaking the stalemate in the Cambodian issue which has prevailed for the past 9 years. The meeting in Paris between Comrade Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk and the 4 December 1987 four-point joint statement indicated an initial success of the policy on national reconciliation and the five-point stance of the PRK, thereby ushering in a process of peaceful settlement for the Cambodian issue in compliance with the general trend. Results of this meeting affirmed that the Cambodian issue must be solved by the Cambodians themselves.

The Vietnamese people are very happy to see the great victories scored by the PRK during the past 9 years, and especially the important changes of 1987. We are encouraged by the increasingly developed relations between Vietnam and Cambodia. In the protracted struggle against the common enemy and in their national construction, peoples of our two nations have unswervingly strengthened their unity, shared weal and woe, and provided each other with wholehearted and effective assistance. Vietnam has been, and is, striving to continue to do its best to strengthen and consistently develop the militant solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia, and among Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

Commemorating this 7 January anniversary, we sincerely wish the fraternal Cambodian people ever greater achievements in implementing the resolution of the Fifth KPRP Congress.

Editorial on Import-Export Law
BK181211 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 12 Jan 88

[NHAN DAN 13 January editorial: "Import-Export Law, an Important Tool To Manage Foreign Trade Activities"]

[Text] In response to the pressing demands of the national economy and social life, in the past few years, foreign trade in our country has developed satisfactorily. In 1987, exports increased by 8% and imports increased by 14.2% compared with 1986. In 1988, all sectors and localities strove at the very beginning of the year to increase the export quota by 17.6% over that of 1987, hoping to increase that rate in the subsequent years.

Apart from the progress achieved, the general quality and value of exports and imports—especially exports—remains low. The structural organization and quantity of imports is still irrational. The ratio of luxury items to the import quota is still too large, allowing for serious waste. The situation of competitive purchases and sales has not

been overcome, thereby reducing the results of foreign trade economy and causing difficulties to the state budget. The annual rate of losses to be compensated is triple that of the revenues.

In order to help overcome the aforesaid situation, eliminate the system of subsidized administration, and shift to socialist accounting and business, the Second Session of the Eighth National Assembly recently passed the law on exporting and importing commercial goods. This is a step toward institutionalizing the task set forth in the resolutions of the sixth party congress and the party Central Committee's second, third, and fourth plenums.

Import-export taxes are monetary amounts delivered to the state budget at fixed rates when goods cross Vietnam's custom border. Export taxes hold a very important meaning and are broadly applied in all countries in the world. They are aimed at protecting domestic production, especially embryonic industries, and increasing the revenues for the central state budget. At the same time, they serve as an effective tool to implement the foreign trade policy and create conditions for expanding and enhancing the effectiveness of the foreign trade economy.

Regarding import taxes, with a view to encouraging the development of production, increasing the production capacity, and creating conditions for various economic elements to utilize fully all domestic production abilities, the state has decided to exempt taxes or apply low tax rates for such items as machinery, equipment, raw materials, and fuel. Low tax rates are also prescribed for staple consumer goods not yet, or insufficiently, produced in the country. As for those expensive luxury items, high taxes will be levied to limit imports. Nevertheless, the rates are still low if compared to many countries in the world. Export taxes are applied to only a very few items of exports and are designed to supplement the source of budgetary revenues and rationally adjust income among various sectors and export organizations.

The import-export law asserts the state function of financial distribution and supervision and implements the system of monopolistic state control over foreign trade according to the new concept. Together with other tools of management, import-export law will help intensify the state role of centralizing management control over import-export activities, and establish a new order in foreign trade operations.

While the old business way still prevails and at a time when the economic situation has not been stabilized, especially in the domains of prices and circulation of materials, difficulties can be hardly avoided in enforcing the import-export law at the beginning. This requires the finance and custom sectors that are entrusted with the task of directly implementing this law, to renovate their work method toward, on the one hand, adequately executing all the provisions of the law, and on the other,

reducing complicated procedures and creating favorable conditions for the organization of business and production in export and import. This also requires regular coordination and mutual support among various sectors and echelons.

Such a concerted effort will turn the import-export law on commercial goods into an effective tool and will help expand and enhance the results of foreign trade economy as specified in the sixth party congress resolution.

Editorial on Investment Law
BK161010 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 11 Jan 88

[NHAN DAN 12 January editorial: "Correctly Understand and Satisfactorily Comply With the Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam"]

[Text] The broadening and increasing of external economic efficiency constitute a major economic policy of our party and state. The resolution of the Sixth CPV Congress pointed out that it is our specific orientation and policy to step up exports in order to meet requirements for imports and to participate increasingly in the international division of labor. It is of foremost and prime importance to develop the relations of division of labor and comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union, Laos, Cambodia, and other countries in the CEMA. It is necessary to develop positively economic, scientific, and technical relations with other countries and with international organizations and foreign private concerns based on principles of equality and mutual benefits.

The Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam, which was officially passed by the Eighth National Assembly at its second session on 29 December 1987 and the promulgation of which was made in an order signed by the chairman of the Council of State, is a materialization and institutionalization in writing of the policy and lines of the party. This event is of paramount significance. It is designed to broaden economic cooperation with foreign countries, develop the national economy, and step up exports based on effective exploitation of natural resources, manpower, and other potentialities of the country. This reflects the attention given to integrating national and international factors, as well as traditional and contemporary factors, to create further conditions for exploiting satisfactorily all potentials to broaden commercial relations and economic, scientific, and technical cooperation with the outside world in order to serve the cause of socialist construction.

The Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam with 6 chapters and 42 articles adequately reflects that the basic principle of economic cooperation is to achieve equality and be mutually beneficial to the investing party and the receiving party. The SRV state welcomes and encourages investment by foreign organizations and persons of their capital and technology in Vietnam on the principles of

respect for the independence and sovereignty of Vietnam and observance of Vietnamese laws. The Vietnamese state shall guarantee the ownership of invested capital and other rights of foreign organizations and persons and extend to the latter favorable conditions and easy formalities for their investment in Vietnam.

Originating from the specific situation of the country, the law defines that foreign organizations and individuals can invest in Vietnam in any of three ways: contractual business cooperation, joint venture enterprise or a company referred to as a joint venture, or private enterprise with 100% foreign invested capital. The scope and line of business, the rights, obligations, and liabilities of both parties and the relationships between the two parties shall be mutually agreed upon.

The provisions in the law on investment, which include various measures to guarantee and encourage investment, are generous and guarantee fair and equitable treatment by the SRV to any foreign organization or person investing in Vietnam. These measures range from a guarantee that the capital and assets of investors shall not be requisitioned or confiscated under administrative procedures and that an enterprise with foreign capital shall not be nationalized, to the granting of the right to repatriate their principal, interest and other sums of

money in their legal ownership. Expatriate personnel working in an enterprise with foreign capital shall be authorized to repatriate their earnings after payment of income taxes.

This also shows a rational fixing of various kinds of taxes to guarantee both our interests and those of foreign investors.

To us, broadening external economic relations means making full use of the advantage of the division of labor and of international cooperation; acquiring the fruits of the scientific and technical revolution; gaining more capital, technology, and managerial skills; creating a firm foothold in the international division of labor; exploiting and using effectively our natural resources and manpower; and increasing capital accumulation for socialism.

We are opening the door widely to welcome foreign investment based on the principles and policies already expounded in the law. Every echelon, sector, and establishment in the entire country must correctly perceive and profoundly understand the spirit of various resolutions of the party on the foreign economic policy, promptly do away with our weaknesses and deficiencies, and join with sectors, localities, and units directly involved with foreign investment in implementing scrupulously and effectively the Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam.

Australia

USSR Ratifies Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty

Embassy Holds News Conference
BK030958 Melbourne Overseas Services in English
0803 GMT 3 Feb 88

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] The Soviet Union has removed a major question mark over its commitment to the South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty, and at a news conference in Canberra to publicize the Soviet ratification of the treaty, Soviet officials also had their say about the prosecution of war criminals in Australia and held out hopes for the signing this year of a human contacts agreement between Moscow and Canberra.

An Australian Senate committee is currently holding hearings in Canberra on a proposal to allow the prosecution of war criminals in Australia and questions have been raised about the admissibility of Soviet evidence.

This report from Graeme Dobell from Canberra:

[Begin recording] [Dobell] When Moscow put its signature to the protocols of the South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty in December 1986 it won a lot of points in the region, particularly because Washington rejected the treaty. But in signing, the Soviet Union registered some differing views about the Pacific Forum's interpretation of what the treaty actually meant. According to the Soviet Union then, the treaty should be read as prohibiting the passage of nuclear ships through the region, and if any state allowed such passage, then Moscow would be freed of its obligations under the treaty. This interpretation puzzled, if not angered, Canberra which had ensured that the treaty had a specific provision allowing nuclear ships to sail through Pacific waters and obviously allowed American ships to continue to call at Australian ports.

The Soviet Union, though, has now backed away from its previous interpretation of the meaning of the nuclear-free treaty and has become the first of the nuclear states to ratify the document. Moscow has informed the South Pacific Forum that it will observe completely its commitments under the treaty. An official of the Soviet Embassy, Mr Vladimir Valkov, explained the changed position this way.

[Valkov] Some provisions of the treaty were not absolutely clear for us, especially the question of transit. Because according to the treaty itself, certain provisions can be understood as prohibiting the transit of the nuclear weapons. That was put forward, that was emphasized in our initial statement. After the discussions, we took into account the view of the South Pacific Forum. Well, I believe that it could happen anyway, but with the

atmosphere of new thinking, the policy of new thinking which is pursued by our leaders, by our country now, it was made more possible, so to say.

[Dobell] A counselor at the embassy, Mr Yuriy Belobrov, rejected concerns expressed before a Senate committee in Canberra this week about the reliability of Soviet evidence if Australia goes ahead with the law to allow prosecution of war criminals within Australia. Mr Belobrov said Soviet evidence was reliable, and Moscow would cooperate with Australia in prosecuting suspected war criminals, but Moscow would prefer such trials to take place on Soviet soil.

[Belobrov] The criminal should be actually tried in courts of the country where the crimes were committed. We are [word indistinct] to have criminals, war criminals, who committed mass killings in the USSR to be prosecuted in the USSR by a Soviet court.

[Dobell] Mr Belobrov said he hoped that Australia and the Soviet Union would sign a human contacts agreement later this year—the first such agreement Moscow has ever entered. The human contacts treaty was to have been one of the achievements of the prime minister's visit to Moscow in December, but Mr Hawke said Australia would only sign if the treaty had real substance. In the event, the officials kept negotiating for a week after Mr Hawke had departed from Moscow, and the two sides have reached agreement on a form of words covering family reunions, cultural exchanges, the media and sporting contacts.

Australian officials are happy that they have achieved an agreement that will make a real difference in the freedom of movement of people between Australia and the Soviet Union. It is expected the proposed treaty will go before cabinet for approval at the end of this month. [end recording]

Gromyko Sends Message
BK030548 Melbourne Overseas Services in English
0500 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] The Soviet Union has announced that it is ratifying the protocols of the South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty. The Soviet Embassy in Canberra says the ratification is possible because Moscow now accepted that under the accord nuclear ships were to transit through the South Pacific nuclear-free zone.

The embassy said that the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Mr Gromyko, had sent a message to the member countries of the South Pacific Forum informing them of the ratification.

Mr Gromyko's message said the Soviet Union would observe completely its commitments under the nuclear-free zone treaty. He said the Soviet Union wanted to strengthen the viability of the nuclear-free zone and hoped all members of the South Pacific Forum would join the treaty.

A second secretary of the Soviet Embassy, Mr Vladimir Valkov, said when the Soviet Union had signed the treaty in December 1986 it had expressed its interpretation that the treaty prohibited the transit of nuclear vessels. He said this had been one of the main questions discussed during talks last year between the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Shevardnadze, and his Australian counterpart, Mr Hayden.

Mr Valkov said Australia's representation had been important in changing the Soviet interpretation of a nuclear-free zone treaty. The Soviet diplomat said the atmosphere of new thinking in the Soviet Union had also made it possible for Moscow to ratify the protocols of the South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty.

Defense Sources Reject PNG Coup Plot Reports
BK030312 Hong Kong AFP in English 0254 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Canberra, Feb 3 (AFP)—Australian defence sources Wednesday rejected reports of a coup plot against Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister Paias Wingti.

An Australian commercial television station had reported Tuesday that Brigadier-General Ted Diro, a former foreign minister and defence forces chief, had planned to lead a Fiji-style coup in Port Moresby last weekend but failed.

But defence sources said the alleged coup plot was only a rumour and denied reports that an Australian defence alert had been called at the weekend.

The brigadier's son, Veni Diro, Tuesday night issued a statement in Port Moresby saying his father was "outraged at the report."

"My father denies this story totally and says he will be consulting his Sydney-based lawyers for advice," Mr Diro said.

Brig.-Gen. Diro resigned from the cabinet last year after allegations that he had accepted a large election donation from the chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces, General Benni Murdani.

The leader of the people's action party in the coalition government and head of the numerically powerful Papuan bloc, Brig.-Gen. Diro last week unsuccessfully called on Mr Wingti to restore him his cabinet post.

Minister Investigated for Election Donation
BK030532 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0510 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Hawke, says he will not ask the immigration minister, Mr Mick Young, to stand down during the investigation of a donation to the [Australian] Labor Party [ALP]. The \$10,000 was sent to Mr Young by the wood chip company, (Harold Dis-hower), for use in last year's federal election campaign, but finished up in the New South Wales administration of the ALP.

It was not disclosed as a campaign donation, but because of this federal police are investigating whether there has been breach of the Electoral Act.

Arriving in Adelaide today, Mr Young said the whole episode was the result of a misunderstanding between him and the New South Wales secretary of the Labor Party, Mr (Stephen Leslie).

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

3 Feb 1988

